

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 127.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1848.

[PRICE 6d.]

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on MONDAY EVENING next, at FINSBURY CHAPEL. The Chair to be taken at Half-past Six precisely, by the Rev. C. M. BIRRELL, of Liverpool.

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SERMON will be preached by the Rev. W. ROBINSON, of Kettering, at SALTERS'-HALL CHAPEL, CANNON-STREET, on FRIDAY NEXT, the 21st inst. Service to commence at Half-past SIX.

The GENERAL MEETING of SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the MISSION-HOUSE, MOORGATE-STREET, on MONDAY Morning next, the 4th, at TEN o'clock.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at FINSBURY CHAPEL, on TUESDAY Evening next, the 25th. The Chair will be taken at SIX o'clock precisely, by S. M. PETO, Esq., M.P.

GENERAL BAPTIST MISSIONS IN INDIA AND CHINA.

THE ANNUAL SERVICES in connexion with the above Missions, will be held as under:—

On LORD'S DAY next, APRIL the 23rd, SERMONS will be preached in BOROUGH-ROAD CHAPEL (Rev. J. Stevenson's), Rev. ELI NOYES, M.A., of Boston, United States, at Eleven forenoon; and the Rev. JONATHAN WOODMAN, of Sutton, Vermont, U.S., at half-past Six evening.

In the TABERNACLE, PRAED-STREET, Paddington (Rev. W. Underwood's), Rev. JONATHAN WOODMAN, at Eleven, forenoon; Rev. ELI NOYES, M.A., half-past Six, evening.

LORD'S DAY, APRIL the 30th, SERMONS will be preached in ENON CHAPEL, NEW CHURCH-STREET, Edgeware-road (Rev. Dr. Burns's), Rev. ELI NOYES, at Eleven, forenoon; Rev. JONATHAN WOODMAN, at half-past Six, evening.

In BEULAH CHAPEL, COMMERCIAL-ROAD EAST (Rev. G. Pegg's), Rev. JONATHAN WOODMAN, at a quarter to Eleven, forenoon; Rev. ELI NOYES, M.A., half-past Six, evening.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS will be held at—BOROUGH-ROAD SCHOOL-ROOMS, GREAT SUFFOLK-STREET, MONDAY EVENING, MAY the 1st. ENON CHAPEL, NEW CHURCH-STREET, EDGEWARE-ROAD, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY the 2nd. BEULAH CHAPEL, COMMERCIAL-ROAD EAST, THURSDAY EVENING, MAY the 4th. The Revs. Messrs. Noyes and Woodman, of America; Wilkinson, of Orissa; J. G. Pike, of Derby; and other Ministers, will address the Meetings.

The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE following is the arrangement of the Services in connexion with the General Meeting of the above Society:—

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

A MEETING for PRAYER in the Library of the Mission-house; Morning, Eleven o'clock.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, and WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26. The ANNUAL SERMONS will be preached on THURSDAY, APRIL 20, Evening:—SURREY CHAPEL, by Rev. THOMAS ARCHER, D.D., at half-past Six o'clock; and on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, Morning:—POULTRY CHAPEL, by Rev. CHARLES M. BIRRELL, of Liverpool, at Eleven o'clock.

LORD'S DAY, APRIL 23. SERMONS will be preached on behalf of the Society at the BAPTIST CHAPELS of the METROPOLIS. (For particulars, see the *Herald*.)

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the YOUNG FRIENDS of the Society will be held at FINSBURY CHAPEL. The Chair will be taken at Two o'clock in the Afternoon.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Society will be held at the Mission-house, Moorgate-street, at Ten o'clock in the Morning.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, Strand; the Chair to be taken by JOHN HENDERSON, Esq., of Glasgow, at Ten o'clock.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

An ADJOURNED MEETING will be held at FINSBURY CHAPEL; the Chair will be taken by ROBERT LUSH, Esq., at half-past Six o'clock in the Evening. Admission to the Public Meeting will be by Tickets, which may be obtained at the Mission-house, 33, Moorgate-street. JOSEPH ANGUS, Secretary.

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL AMONG THE JEWS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen-street, on THURSDAY EVENING, April 27th.

The Chair to be taken at Six o'clock precisely.

Tickets to be had at the Office of the Society, No. 1, Crescent-street, Blackfriars; and of Messrs. NISBET and Co., Berners-street; Messrs. AYLOR and JONES, Paternoster-row; Mr. COLES, 139, Cheapside; and Messrs. MILLER and FIELD, 6, Bridge-road, Lambeth.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION FROM ALL STATE-INTERFERENCE.

THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING of this ASSOCIATION will be held on WEDNESDAY, May 3, at FINSBURY CHAPEL.

The Chair will be taken at half-past six o'clock.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary. Offices, 12, Warwick-square, Paternoster-row.

A FANCY BAZAAR in aid of the STOCKWELL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, under the immediate patronage of the Right Hon. C. T. D'EYNCOURT, M.P., will be held at the HORNS, Kennington, on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, April 25 and 26. Open from 12 to 9 o'clock. Admission, 1s. EDWARD CARLILE, Hon. Sec. N.B. Various Models and Works of Art will be exhibited.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS, STAMFORD-HILL.

For Fatherless Children under Eight Years of Age, without distinction of Sex, Place, or Religious Connexion.

THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of this Charity will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of MAY next.

The Baron LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD, M.P., will preside on the occasion. The List of Noblemen and Gentlemen who have consented to act as Stewards will shortly appear.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Hon. Secs.

THOMAS W. AVELING, }

Contributions most thankfully received.

Life Subscriptions.....£5 5 0

Annual ditto.....0 10 6

Post-office Orders payable to WILLIAM STRUDWICKE, Secretary. Office, 32, Poultry.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS, STAMFORD HILL.

For Fatherless Children under Eight Years of Age, without distinction of Sex, Place, or Religious Connexion.

THE NEXT ELECTION of this charity will occur on the THIRD MONDAY in JUNE. All persons interested in cases should make their applications forthwith to the office, where blank forms for candidates and every information may be obtained on any day from ten till four.

Subscriptions most thankfully received.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Honorary

THOMAS W. AVELING, } Secretaries.

Life Subscriptions.....£5 5 0

Annual ditto.....0 10 6

Post Office Orders payable to WILLIAM STRUDWICKE, Secretary. Office, 32, Poultry.

FOURTH SERIES OF

PSALMODY EXERCISES in the METROPOLIS, by the Rev. J. J. WAITE.

On MONDAY, April 24, the Rev. Mr. AVELING'S CHAPEL, KINGSLAND.

On TUESDAY, April 25, Rev. Dr. REED'S CHAPEL, WYCLIFFE.

On WEDNESDAY, April 26, the Rev. G. CLAYTON'S CHAPEL, WALWORTH.

On THURSDAY, April 27, the Rev. S. MARTIN'S CHAPEL, WESTMINSTER.

On FRIDAY, April 28, the WESLEYAN CHAPEL, LIVERPOOL-ROAD.

Doors open at Six. Exercises to commence at Seven, and conclude at Nine. Admission Books—One Shilling—may be obtained in the Vestries of the Chapels.

The FIGURED HALLELUJAH, designed for those who attend Mr. Waite's Psalmody Classes, is now ready at B. L. GREEN'S, 62, Paternoster-row.

Mr. Waite's address during the present Course is 40, Claremont-square; Mr. Eastmead's, 2, Church-row, Newington; to either of which communications may be directed.

THOMAS E. THORESBY, } Secretaries.

JOHN S. EASTMEAD, }

LADIES' EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, HACKNEY.

THIS Establishment, which is under the superintendence of a Lady experienced in tuition, is formed partially on the plan of the establishments in Scotland and on the Continent; and is designed to provide cheap and superior instruction for Young Ladies desirous of completing their educational course under the best London Masters; or, at a more advanced age, of pursuing further any department of study.

Terms for resident pupils, and also for attendance at the classes, may be obtained of Mr. Snow, Paternoster-row; or of the Rev. E. Stallybrass, 10, Mare-street, Hackney.

The Institute offers a pleasant and improving home to young persons deprived of parental care.

TO BE LET, an excellent RETAIL BUSINESS in the GROCERY and PROVISION LINE, in one of the principal Market Towns in Monmouthshire, surrounded by Iron Works in full operation. Such an opportunity seldom occurs, as the Business is to be disposed of under peculiar circumstances. The premises are large and convenient and well situated.

Apply to the Editor, or to E. L., Post Office, Newport.

SEND EIGHT POSTAGE STAMPS, and by return, and post free, you will get a handsome TEASPOON of WATSON'S solid ALBATA PLATE, which is rapidly superseding silver for all domestic uses. It is equally sweet and handsome as silver itself. This is the only solid substitute now sold, and unlike plated goods of any kind, there is nothing to wear off; so that the more you rub and clean it the better it will continue to look, though in daily use for fifty years. Don't be afraid to put it to any test, and then send your order. A full catalogue of prices, with patterns of every other article manufactured from this beautiful metal, will be enclosed with the sample spoon. Address C. Watson, 41 and 42 Barbican, corner of Princes-street, and 16, Norton-folgate.

THE "NONCONFORMIST" NEWSPAPER.

AT a MEETING summoned by circular to consider what means had better be taken to promote the CIRCULATION of the "NONCONFORMIST," and held at the Public Committee-room, 44, Broad Quay, Bristol, April 14, 1848, Mr. ROBERT NORRIS in the Chair, the following resolutions were adopted:—

Moved by Mr. Henry Lee; seconded by Mr. L. Bewsey and carried unanimously—

1. That we cordially agree with the principles of social progress, political justice, and religious equality, which are expounded and enforced in the *Nonconformist* newspaper; and that we present our respectful and earnest congratulations to the editor of that journal on the amount of success which has attended his noble experiment, and on the uncompromising integrity, the unwearied energy, and the surpassing talent, with which he has discharged the duties of a public teacher.

Moved by Mr. J. P. Ham, minister; seconded by Mr. M. Mathews, sen.; and carried, with only one dissident from the last clause—

2. That, in our judgment, it is of the utmost importance that the political principles of Christianity and the peaceful and radical reforms which are explained and advocated in the *Nonconformist*, should be brought prominently before the country at the present time, when many professed friends of the working classes are urging them to adopt violent and ruinous measures for the attainment of their rights, and when it is the manifest tendency of the Government not only to refuse the people their just demands, but also to make further encroachments upon their liberties.

Moved by Mr. E. S. Robinson; seconded by Mr. G. B. Chick; and carried unanimously—

3. That the recent enlargement of the *Nonconformist* presents a favourable opportunity for an effort to increase its circulation; and that the following persons be appointed a committee (with power to add to their number) to co-operate with the committee in London, and to adopt such other measures as may seem desirable for the promotion of this object:—

COMMITTEE.

Treasurer—Mr. G. B. Chick

Secretary—Mr. R. Norris

Mr. W. J. Cross, Minister

Mr. J. Griffin

Mr. H. W. Ditchett

Mr. John Jones

Mr. J. P. Ham, Minister

Mr. W. James, Minister

Mr. G. Kerry

Mr. John Bond

Mr. Thomas Mathews

Mr. L. Bewsey

Mr. Henry Lee

Mr. E. S. Robinson

Mr. John Shoard

Mr. E. Bonser

Mr. T. Rice

Mr. W. Hicks

Moved by Mr. J. Griffin; seconded by Mr. H. W. Ditchett; and carried unanimously—

That the foregoing resolutions be advertised in the *Nonconformist* and the *Bristol Mercury* newspapers.

ROBERT NORRIS, Chairman.

THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established in 1826. Empowered by Acts of Parliament.

TRUSTEES.

Sir Thomas Brancker,

Adam Hodgson, Esq.,

William Potter, Esq.

Offices in Liverpool—No. 8, Water-street.

DIRECTORS.

William Earle, Esq., Chairman.

William Dixon, Esq., William Nicol, Esq., Deputy Chairmen.

Swinton Boulton, Esq., Secretary.

Offices in London—3, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house, and 28, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.

DIRECTORS.

William Ewart, Esq., M.P., Chairman.

George Frederick Young, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

Frederick Chinnock, Esq., Manager of West-end Office.

Offices in Edinburgh—29, Northumberland-street;

Agents, Messrs. Mackenzie and Todd.

Offices in Dublin—45, Dame-street;

Agents, Messrs. Smyths and Du Bédats.

THE AMOUNT OF CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED EXCEEDS £1,500,000. At the commencement of 1848, the Reserved and Guaranteed Funds were together £160,487 19s. 2d. The liability of the proprietors is unlimited.

THE FIRE BUSINESS HAS STEADILY INCREASED YEAR BY YEAR. The duty paid to Government in 1836 was £3,414; in 1846 it reached £12,362. The Premiums are moderate; the settlement of claims liberal and prompt. Insurances are effected in the British Colonies and in foreign countries, as well as throughout the United Kingdom.

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT, SIMPLICITY, CERTAINTY, AND LARGE GUARANTEED BONUSES, involving no liability of partnership, with very reasonable premiums, are characteristics of the Company. The amount of Insurances effected in 1847 was 124,878.

CAPITAL SUMS, PAYABLE ON A FIXED FUTURE DAY, giving to property held under Lease for years certain, the same value as if it were freehold, are insured by the Company. Policies of this description are available for many other purposes as well.

Full prospectuses may be had on application at the Offices of Agencies, and every facility and despatch will be afforded to persons desirous of negotiating business.

Applications for Agencies accompanied with unexceptionable references may be addressed to the Offices of the Company in either Liverpool or London.

March 22, 1848.

SWINTON BOULT,

Secretary to the Company.

COALS.—CUNDELL and COCKERELL assure those who honour them with their patronage, that they still continue to sell none but the BEST WALL'S END COALS; and the extensive share of public favour which it has been their good fortune to experience, is a powerful incitement to them not to deviate from a principle and practice which have not only secured advantages to themselves, but which, they have substantial reasons for believing, have been highly satisfactory to those who have favoured them with their commands. Present Price, after deducting the usual discount for cash, 24s. per ton. PURFLEET WHARF, EARL-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,

Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, London. For Mutual Life Assurance, with these peculiar advantages:—

1. Mutual Assurance by the most moderate rate of premium.
2. Whole Profits divided amongst the Assured exclusively.

Age 20	Age 25	Age 30	Age 35	Age 40	Age 45	Age 50	Age 55
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 15 8	1 18 0	2 1 6	2 6 10	2 14 9	3 5 9	4 1 7	5 1 11

Reports, Tables, and every information may be had of the Secretaries.

Edinburgh Office—14, St. Andrew's-square.
London Office—13, Moorgate-street.

TEMPERANCE and GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,

FOR MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE, ANNUITIES, &c.
39, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.
Enrolled under Act of Parliament.

TRUSTEES.
Robert Warner, Esq. Richard Barrett, jun., Esq.
Rev. W. R. Baker. Edward Webb, Esq.

SECRETARY.
Theodore Compton, Esq.

BANKERS.
Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.

Lower Premiums than in most Mutual Offices; thus securing an immediate Bonus of £100 to £400 on every £1,000 assured. THE WHOLE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE ASSURED.

Every Assured is a Member, and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.
Members can secure their benefits to their families, or any other persons, Free of Duty, by simply registering the names in the Books of the Society.

Persons abstaining from Alcoholic Beverages are assured in a distinct section, free from any possible losses through Intemperance.

The Society is now issuing Sixty Policies per month.
Prospectuses sent free to any address.

IMPORTANT FACTS TO BISCUIT CONSUMERS.

It is acknowledged by all eminent medical men, that Biscuits are most nutritious and conducive to health when made of the purest materials, and in a clean and wholesome manner; and if charged at a reasonable price, would become an article of general consumption. J. D. CARR and Co., of Carlisle, being sensible that such is the fact, have lately introduced into their Depot, 111, Strand, an extensive assortment, which cannot fail to afford universal satisfaction, if price and quality, which denote a good Biscuit, are considered, they being light, crisp, and of agreeable flavour, such as only powerful Steam Machinery can produce. Biscuits from 3d. to 1s. per lb. Observe name and address, J. D. CARR and Co., of Carlisle, the Queen's Biscuit Manufacturers, 111, Strand, nearly opposite Exeter-hall.

DEANE'S DOMESTIC BATHS.

The approach of spring, after a long wet winter, and when every one almost suffers from the effects of that epidemic which has prevailed so much, and so fatally, renders it desirable that all should at once resort to Cold Water Bathing. Deane's Bath Department is now replete with every novelty, and every description of Bath, whether new or old, which renders the operation easy and agreeable. As a guide to it, secure Deane's Pamphlet, on the subject of Baths and Bathing, which is just published, and may be obtained at their warehouses, or of their Carts, which are daily in all parts of the metropolis. Baths repaired or lent on hire at the lowest possible charges. Baths delivered and put up within ten miles of London-bridge free of charge. GEORGE and JOHN DEANE, Shower, Sitz, Plunging, Sponge, Omni-directive, Hand-shower, &c., &c. Bath Manufacturers, opening to the Monument, 46, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON-BRIDGE.

THE PLATED SEAMLESS TEA-POTS CAN-

not be distinguished from silver, or leak, or lose their shape; while from the peculiarity of the process of making (just patented), their prices are about one-half of any other sort. Portland, 23s.; Oval plain, 23s.; Round plain, 25s.; Round engraved, 30s.; Antique (superior even to silver itself in delicacy of finish), 40s.; in Britannia metal, Oval, 7s. 6d.; Round, 8s. 6d.; Portland, 7s. 6d. each.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE IRONS.

The LARGEST ASSORTMENT of STOVES, KITCHEN RANGES, and FENDERS, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on sale at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) extensive warehouses. Bright steel fenders, 4 feet, from 30s. each; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from 60s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with steel bar, 10s. 6d.; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s.; 4 feet, 11s.; wrought iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornaments, and two sets of bars, from 80s.; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from £6 6s.; black dining-room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s.; 3 feet, 27s.; bedroom register stoves, 3 feet, 16s.; 3 feet, 24s. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest pattern, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire-irons, with or-molu and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in the furnishing ironmongery, 30 per cent. under any other house. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogues with engravings, sent (per post) free.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) stock of general furnishing ironmongery is literally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct idea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to call and inspect it—39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells-street, 1830.

FURNITURE and BEDDING.—Carriage Free.

Those about to furnish are offered very considerable advantages, in quality and price, at SMITH'S FURNITURE and BEDDING FACTORY, No. 38, Bagnigge-wells-road, next door to Clerkenwell police-court, where you can furnish a bedroom complete for nine guineas, a four-roomed cottage comfortably, including fenders and fire-irons, for £23; a six-roomed house, in modern style, for £70; an eight-roomed house for £140; and a mansion of any magnitude, or a single room, or a single article, upon the same reasonable scale. Special estimates furnished without charge; all goods delivered carriage free. Priced lists of furniture, containing designs, classed and adapted, from the cottage to the mansion, postage free, Superior Brussels Carpet, 9s. 10d. per yard.

A NEW DISCOVERY in TEETH.—MR.

HOWARD, Surgeon-Dentist, 52, Fleet-street, has introduced an entirely new description of artificial teeth, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication; and that Mr. Howard's improvement may be within reach of the most economical, he has fixed his charges at the lowest scale possible. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful in mastication.—52, FLEET-STREET.
At home from Ten till Five.

PATENT DESICCATED COFFEE.

JOHN RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has succeeded in making arrangements with the PATENT DESICCATING COMPANY (Davison and Symington, Patentees), for roasting Coffee. This principle is perfectly novel, being effected entirely by hot air; and has the peculiar advantage of improving the article both in colour, strength, and quality, preserving purity, richness of flavour, and all its aromatic qualities, whilst it excludes all burnt and acrid matter, which under the ordinary process invariably arises. It is recommended by the most eminent of the faculty, as being especially adapted to persons of weak digestive organs.

TESTIMONIALS.

"Messrs. Davison and Symington.
"Gentlemen,—I have submitted the sample of coffee roasted by your improved process, left with me, to a careful chemical examination, and find it to be free from the strong, acrid, empyreumatic oil which gives to coffee, as ordinarily prepared, so much of its unpleasant flavour; and, doubtless, also its injurious effects on many constitutions; at the same time that it possesses all the fine aromatic properties unimpaired. It is also much more evenly roasted throughout its substance, and I consider a very great improvement on the old process.

"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,
"R. WARRINGTON, Chemical Operator."
"5, Old Burlington-street.
"Dear Sir,—I have been lately using the coffee which you sent me, prepared according to your invention, and I am of opinion that it is softer, is better flavoured, and is better suited to persons whose digestive organs are weak; and hence, that it is more wholesome than coffee which is roasted in the usual way, and which is often burnt or acrid.

"I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
"To R. Davison, Esq. JAMES COPLAND, M.D."

HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA, prepared by JOHN

RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, on a plan which preserves the flavor and highly nutritive qualities of the Cocoa Nut in their fullest extent, and effectually frees it from those grosser oily particles which has rendered the use of it objectionable with persons of weak digestion. The purity and general excellence of this preparation has already procured for it an extensive and increasing sale among the Homœopathic Public, and it is confidently recommended to all classes who desire an economical and palatable beverage for the breakfast, luncheon, or tea-tables.

PATENT FOR ROASTING COFFEE.

EXTRACT from the "PATENT JOURNAL" of the 11th of December, 1847:—"Patents recently granted.—To William Dakin, of Number One, Saint Paul's-churchyard, 'for improvements in cleaning and roasting coffee, in the apparatus and machinery to be used therein, and also in the apparatus for making infusions and decoctions of coffee.'"

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant her Royal Letters Patent to WILLIAM DAKIN, of NUMBER ONE, SAINT PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON, under the above title, and for the purposes declared, DAKIN and COMPANY respectfully inform the public, that the extensive engines and machinery for carrying out the patent are being got ready with every possible despatch; and, that on their completion, the firm will be in a position to bring this extraordinary and highly important invention prominently before the public—an invention which, by the adoption of a simple scientific principle, altogether supercedes every other plan introduced, developing in Coffee a richness, purity, and delicacy of flavour, not hitherto considered as belonging to this berry.

METCALFE and CO.'S NEW PATTERN

TOOTH BRUSH and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the Teeth, and cleansing them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose.—An improved Clothes Brush that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russia Bristle, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. The Genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at Metcalfe and Co.'s sole Establishment, 130 B, Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

CAUTION.—Beware of the words, "from Metcalfe's," adopted by some houses.

ROYAL VICTORIA FELT CARPETING, PATRONISED BY HER MAJESTY, AND USED IN THE ROYAL PALACES AND THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.

THOSE who study economy are strongly recommended to use this description of Carpeting, which, from its durability, beauty of pattern, and brilliancy of colouring is equal to Brussels, and costing less than half the price, is now being generally substituted for it.

The PATENT WOOLLEN CLOTH COMPANY, who are the sole manufacturers under the Patent, inform the trade that they are constantly introducing new designs, and that those of the present season are now on view, and will be found of the choicest description, and suitable for all styles of rooms.

The public can be supplied through the Company's Agents in nearly all the Provincial Towns of the three Kingdoms, and at every respectable Carpet-house in London and its suburbs. The Company also manufacture table-covers and window curtains, embossed and printed in the most recherche designs, waistcoatings, plain cloths suitable for upholsterers, cloths admirably adapted for coach and railway carriage linings, thick felt for plate glass and marble polishing, and likewise felt for various other purposes.

Manufactories—Elmwood-mills, Leeds, and Borough-road, London. The Trade only supplied at their Wholesale Warehouses, 8, Love-lane, Wood-street, Cheapside.

EPILEPTIC FITS.

WONDERFUL DISCOVERY in MEDICINE, by which upwards of 200 PATIENTS have been effectually CURED OF EPILEPSY within the last year. M. LE MESURIER and CO. are pre-eminent for the cure of Epilepsy in every stage of the disease, and effectually restore their patients to perfect health. Testimonials may be seen, and satisfactory personal references are permitted. Consulting hours from Ten to One o'clock. To extend to suffering humanity the great benefits resulting from their discovery M. Le Mesurier and Co. make no charge for Consultation, and written applications from any part of the world will be answered free
8, BULSTRODE-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE, LONDON.

NERVO-PATHIC and MEDICAL GAL-

VANIC INSTITUTION, 46, Strand, conducted by Mr. DALBY, under the most distinguished patronage, for the Cure of all kinds of Nervous Complaints, including Deafness, Paralysis, Indigestion, &c., by means of Galvanism and the Nervo-pathic treatment, now so extensively employed by Mr. Dalby.

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"[Now at St. Saviour's Vicarage, Leeds.]

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

"I CAN'T GET OUT."

THE case of Mr. Shore is now before the public in his own words. At an unusually large meeting convened at Exeter-hall on Friday evening, he stated it, from a written document, briefly, modestly, and with good feeling. A summary of it may introduce the few observations we are induced to ground upon it.

Mr. Shore was ordained as curate of the parish of Berry Pomeroy, Devon, seventeen years ago, and in 1832, two years afterwards, was nominated by his vicar, minister of a chapel at Bridgetown in that parish, then lately erected by the Duke of Somerset. In 1834, the vicar died, and Mr. E. Brown was inducted to the living. Mr. Shore still retained his office without any new nomination to it. In 1843 Mr. Brown exchanged livings with Mr. W. B. Cosens, whom the Bishop of Exeter had previously engaged to refuse Mr. Shore a re-nomination to his post. The Bishop, professedly grounding his proceeding on the refusal of Mr. Cosens to re-nominate, forbade Mr. Shore the performance of any clerical offices within that parish. The chapel was consequently closed, the congregation scattered, and the clergyman silenced. The Duke of Somerset, six months after, acquiescing in a memorial subscribed by 500 persons, licensed the chapel as a Dissenting meeting-house, and Mr. Shore seceded from the Church, to become once more its minister, as a Nonconformist. Under the Church Discipline Act, he was summoned before a Commission for uncanonical conduct, and subsequently proceeded against in the Court of Arches. The result was that he was forbidden to preach or perform any ecclesiastical duties in the diocese of Exeter. He then took the case before the Court of Queen's Bench, where Lord Denman gave judgment "that he could not divest himself of the character of a priest in holy orders, and that he could only be released from that character, and from the vow he had made of canonical obedience, by the same authority which conferred the one, and enjoined, and received the other." The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, before whom the matter was afterwards brought, referred it back again to the Court of Arches, by the judge of which Mr. Shore was admonished to abstain from offending in like manner in future "under pain of the law and contempt thereof." Thus the seceding clergyman is legally silenced.

The public meeting held at Exeter-hall on Friday night for the purpose of hearing Mr. Shore's narrative of his case, and of taking "such steps as the emergency requires," passed several resolutions. The first was one of sympathy, and should he be imprisoned, of assistance. The second condemned, as inconsistent with Christianity and with the British Constitution, the power of restriction and coercion claimed and exercised in this case by the Bishop of Exeter. The third adopted a petition to Parliament, praying for such an alteration of Ecclesiastical law as would render the recurrence of such a case, a matter of impossibility—and the fourth appointed a committee to co-operate with Mr. Shore, and to

watch over further proceedings. The meeting was addressed by several clergymen and Dissenting ministers, and the audience was large and enthusiastic.

Such, then, in few words, is the case upon which we propose to make a comment or two. In this instance, as in all others, we shall speak our mind, even although in doing so, we may give some offence. We are not conscious of being swayed by any unworthy bias; and, we are sure, that so far as our feelings operate, they would prompt us to go heartily along with the persecuted, and the defenceless. Nevertheless, we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact that this case is but consistent with the entire fabric of State-churchism, nor can we understand how men who uphold the system can repudiate with propriety its natural fruits.

On the character of the Bishop of Exeter's conduct in this affair, there can hardly be two opinions—of his motives he has left us no room to doubt. Mr. Shore is an earnest opponent of Puseyitic doctrines—that explains everything. His diocesan seems to have practised an unworthy manœuvre in order to get into his hands the legal power of crushing the evangelical clergyman, and having succeeded in obtaining it, he has used it without mercy. No man of Christian feeling, of humane disposition, or even of worldly honour, can view the proceedings in this case of Henry of Exeter, without indignation. Throughout, he seems from Mr. Shore's statement, to have acted a tyrannical part, and to have displayed a spirit of unrelenting animosity which, to say the least of it, will hardly tend to elevate his reputation amongst the wise and good of any party. Whatever remarks, therefore, may fall from our pen, we trust they will not be interpreted as approving in the slightest degree of the bishop's share of this painful transaction.

Mr. Shore we believe to be a good man—but a good man who, like a great many others, has placed himself in a false position. In the outset of his course as a clergyman of the Establishment, he put himself, by his oath of canonical obedience, within range of the scourge which he now feels. Perhaps he was inconsiderate—perhaps he had not calculated all the consequences of his act—perhaps he went through the routine of submission exacted from him, as a matter of customary form—or perhaps he was at the time intelligently sincere. Be that as it may, he voluntarily placed himself under the control of an ecclesiastical system, the canons of which preclude the possibility of an individual freedom. That which has come upon him, has come upon him in consequence of the first false step. Having locked himself up as a prisoner, and given the key of the door to another, he must not be surprised that, repenting of his temerity, he is prevented from getting out of the window. His first vow to the Church can hardly be annulled without the Church's consent—and through the Bishop of Exeter, a legal exponent of her will, the Church declares that he shall not depart from the sphere into which he finds himself, but by the same door through which he originally entered. In short, Mr. Shore is held up by that ecclesiastical authority to which he originally swore obedience, to the letter of his vow, until he ask for deposition—or in other words, deprivation, by the bishop, of his clerical character, and this he esteems to be a degradation to which it does not become him to submit, and in preference to which he chooses disobedience and imprisonment.

Now, in this part of his case, we cannot go with him. The degradation, as it seems to us, consisted in the original vow. He, in common with all clergymen of the Establishment, signed away his own freedom when he solemnly promised without reserve canonical obedience. Would he regain it, he must ask it again at the hands into which he voluntarily delivered it. We see no other consistent method by which he can be absolved. He made himself part and parcel of a bad system—a system which has brought home to him much disquietude and suffering. All mistakes entail penalties. That which has overtaken Mr. Shore is the alternative of asking to be unclericalised by the authority which he repudiates, or of exposing him-

self to imprisonment for disobedience to its injunctions. We cannot see why he should not embrace the former. "Give me a bill of divorcement" appears to us a natural request in the mouth of one who has taken the marriage vow, but who seeks to dissolve the marriage tie. It is but complying in the last step with the requirement of a system to which, in the first, he resigned his own liberty—canonically, and in conformity with a foregoing oath, untying the knot which was canonically tied.

We rejoice to see some of our Dissenting friends rallying so enthusiastically around the persecuted—holding out the hand of brotherhood to a man whom a bishop of the Establishment has deemed it becoming his high office to oppress. We shall count on the energetic services of these gentlemen in the next case of church-rate martyrdom. Such men as Childs, Thorogood, Baines, Simonds, and others, have conscientious convictions, as deep-rooted as those of Mr. Shore, and have not, moreover, by any overt act of their own, put themselves under the ecclesiastical dominion which tramples on them. Of course, should any one of them, or of those who think with them, be again incarcerated for obeying conscience, they will know where to look for prompt and earnest sympathy. They may not be clergymen, but they are fellow-Christians—bishops may not worry them, but vicars may—dukes may not countenance them, but the Head of the Church will approve of their fidelity. That they should be called to suffer as Dissenters, will only recommend them more powerfully to the sanction and aid of their brethren. Yes! We hail this accession to the ranks of active opponents to all coercions of conscience. We take it as an omen, and a pledge of better things—and, should we have occasion, we will gladly summon them to the noble work of showing a fellow-feeling with the ecclesiastically oppressed. We foresee many more great meetings, similar to that of Friday night, at Exeter-hall.

Mr. Shore's case will do a world of good. It will constitute a kind of consort with the Hampden election and confirmation. It will further develop the monstrous anomalies of the great Sham. As Dissenters, we could not petition for a modification of the system—we would rather leave it to its own tendencies. If it has an inherent virtue to reform itself, let it—if it has not, we do not see how it becomes our business to patch up the grand delusion. Individually, we feel for all those who suffer from its oppressions. But, to our minds, there is only one remedy. The Church could not make victims but for her alliance with the State. Let those who would deprive her of power to do this, join the agitation for a complete and final severance of the one from the other. We shall then have no more caged clerics crying to the world, "I can't get out."

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

TOUR IN NORFOLK.

Norfolk, notwithstanding that it is the most priest-ridden county in England, is yet one of the strongholds of Nonconformity. In almost all the towns there are a body of thoroughgoing Nonconformists; and, what is still more rare, there are a large number of wealthy and intelligent farmers in the county, who take the deepest interest in the Anti-state-church movement. It is well known that at the last election the two Whig candidates were compelled to come up to the Dissenters' mark, as the only chance of securing their election; while in the other division of the county the Whigs dared not show fight on finding that the Dissenters were determined on withholding their support. Norwich, though a cathedral city, and having nearly forty churches, has acquired for itself some celebrity by its resistance to church-rates, as well as by the spirited conduct of the Dissenters at the last election. The parish-officers of St. George's Colegate, when applied to by Government some time ago for a return of the church-rates levied there, pithily replied—"None; the parish being too intelligent;" and the same parish actually sent a delegate to the Anti-state-church Conference, ap-

pointed in public vestry! Hitherto the Anti-state-church Association has not commenced any movement in the county; but the Norfolk and Norwich Religious Liberty Society has done good service in disseminating Nonconforming principles. It is now, however, proposed to merge this organization into the Association, a step which will probably be taken at the Conference to be held at Norwich after the public meeting in St. Andrew's-hall, on the 19th (to-day), when Mr. Tillitt and the Secretary are to be present. The Secretary, accompanied by J. H. Tillitt, Esq., and the Rev. Thomas Wheeler, has, during the past week, been attending public meetings at North Walsham, East Dereham, Downham, and Lynn. We subjoin such reports of these meetings as have reached us.

NORTH WALSHAM.—We had a capital meeting of the Anti-state-church Association here on Tuesday, the 11th instant. It was held in the British School-room, which was packed to the very door, and among the audience were several of our Nonconforming farmers, who are among the most substantial men of the county. Rev. T. Brown presided, and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, of London, with Mr. Tillitt and Rev. Thomas Wheeler, of Norwich, attended as a deputation. The venerable chairman said that he was the minister of a Nonconformist church founded in the reign of Charles the First, and that, after holding and advocating Nonconformist principles in North Walsham for forty years, he felt them to be as dear to him as ever. The Association, though perhaps new to that meeting, was, in its principles, older than the Council of Trent, or any of the ecclesiastical councils of Europe or Asia, for it was as old as the date of the last passover. If, therefore, antiquity were necessary, they had it to fall back upon.—After the Rev. C. T. Kean, of Worstead, had briefly addressed the meeting, Rev. Thomas Wheeler followed in a speech of some length. He entered into several particulars illustrative of the slavery of the Church, as well as of the profligate distribution of ecclesiastical patronage. Churchmen were obliged to admit these things, and affected to deplore them, yet they made no efforts to remove the evil. Why did they not combine, and agitate the question of Church reform, if they were honest and sincere? Just because they knew that the whole system was so rotten that any extensive alteration would lead to its downfall, and therefore they left the work to the generation to come after them.—Mr. Williams pointed out the inconsistency of those who abjured physical force in politics, and yet employed it for the support of religion, and proceeded to show the contrast between the working of the compulsory and voluntary system. He said that possibly some might think the present a most unsuitable time for agitating the question, and that it would have been wiser to have abstained from increasing the embarrassments of the Government; but he thought it both a manly and an English course to point out the sources of discontent and the best mode of removing them. The House of Commons might exclaim, "Oh no, we never mention it," but discussion out of doors would force it upon them, and perhaps remove their disgust by rendering the subject a little more familiar to them.—Mr. Tillitt expressed his firm conviction that the course of events would shortly shut up the Government to but one issue on this question. They had a million and a half of paupers, and the clergy were feeding on the spoils of the poor. This could not long continue; and instead of being revolutionists and destructives in advocating the separation of Church and State, they were the true Conservatives, for they were endeavouring to suit our institutions to the advancing ideas of the age.—The deputation then received a vote of thanks for their attendance, and the meeting, which had displayed the greatest interest throughout, dispersed.

EAST DEREHAM.—Meetings of the Norfolk Religious Liberty Society have been held in this place, but the Anti-state-church Society has hitherto done nothing. On Wednesday last, however, a meeting was held in the large room of the Eagle Inn, and the Secretary, with Rev. T. Wheeler, of Norwich, attended as a deputation. The place was not only full, but many were standing on the stairs leading to the room, and the audience throughout the evening entered heartily into the spirit of the thing, and by their close attention to the speakers, and the eagerness with which the various points were caught up, showed that the seed previously sown had been cast into the right soil. J. H. Tillitt, Esq., the Secretary of the Electoral League, occupied the chair. He said, in the course of his speech, that the Government supported the Church just as it did the army and navy, and that it could dispense with the latter if it were thought desirable as much as with them, and apply the cost to other purposes. He then entered into an examination of the Church-property question, showing that a large portion of it was originally intended for the relief of the poor, and that it was a grievous wrong to withhold it from them to enrich archbishops and bishops, and enable them to die worth their hundreds of thousands. He also gave a most graphic sketch of the history of the Bedford family, and the mode by which they had obtained and continued to hold through so many changes the Abbey lands of Woburn and Tavistock.—Mr. J. Carvell Williams described the constitution of the Legislature, and appealed to the common sense of the audience whether it was not a mockery to expect that such a body could be instrumental in advancing religion. The people were beginning to find out that the more the meddling propensities of the Government were restrained the better; for almost all the great agitations of the last half century had been directed to the repeal of bad laws devised

by the boasted wisdom of our forefathers.—Rev. T. Wheeler said, that it was a delusion to suppose that the Church cost the poor man nothing. It was supported out of the national funds; and they, as was well known, were chiefly raised by taxation on articles used by the poor. It also condemned the spirit of priestism engendered by an establishment which regarded the clergy as everything, and the laity as nothing. He hoped that the people would not long continue to be priestridden, and he begged of them to maintain their self-respect when they came in contact with the clergy, and not to suffer their principles to be misrepresented.—Rev. J. Farebrother and others also took part in the proceedings.

DOWNHAM, APRIL 14.—A deputation from the Anti-state-church Association favoured us with a visit here yesterday, when a meeting was held in the Baptist chapel, there being no public building in this place suitable for the purpose. Thomas Graves, Esq., of Northwold, presided; and then in addition to the inhabitants who assembled on the occasion there were several persons who came from the villages at a few miles distance. The secretary of the Association and Rev. Thomas Wheeler attended, and occupied the greater part of the evening in a statement of the great principles of Nonconformity, and of the arguments and facts by which they are supported. Rev. John Baine also addressed the meeting. It is hoped that this meeting will give the requisite stimulant here, and that the Anti-state-churchmen in this place will join their fellow-Dissenters elsewhere in their glorious enterprise.

LYNN.—On Friday last the Anti-state-church Association held its first public meeting in this High Church and Toryridden town. So little interest has hitherto been felt in the question, that it was feared that but few would be gathered together on the occasion, but soon after the meeting commenced the Albion-hall, where it was held, became densely and most inconveniently crowded. Rev. R. Hamilton presided; and Mr. J. C. Williams of London, Rev. Andrew Reed, and Rev. Thomas Wheeler of Norwich, attended as a deputation. The Rev. Thomas Wheeler, who was the first speaker, adverted to the serious aspect of the present times; and, in allusion to Ireland, said, that however much they might condemn the violent language and intentions of some of the leaders of the people there, it must not be forgotten that they were suffering from grievous injustice, in the continued existence of the Church Establishment, which was maintained only to buttress up the State Church in this country. He also exposed the fallacy of basing a compulsory system upon the Jewish economy, and showed how inapplicable it was to the times, how inconsistent were those who relied on it, and how much more excellent a way was pointed out in the New Testament. The tendencies of the State-churchism, in its employment of physical force, were most deplorable, and all Christian men should bestir themselves to abolish the system.—The Rev. Andrew Reed, in an elaborate speech, explained what the voluntary principle really was, and vindicated it from the aspersions and misrepresentations of Churchmen. He then proceeded to show, by statistical evidence, that Churchmen formed a minority of the population here, in Scotland, Ireland, and Wales; and referred to the efforts being made in France, and elsewhere, to cast off the State Church, though it was less corrupt and costly than that of England. In an earnest appeal to the meeting to rouse themselves to activity for the spread of Anti-state-church principles, he took occasion to urge the claims of the *Nonconformist*, which had already done so much for their cause by its earnestness, fearlessness, and high talent.—Mr. J. C. Williams ridiculed Lord John Russell's whining complaint of Mr. Bright's intolerance for complaining that an archbishop should be paid three times as well as a Prime Minister. Both the House of Commons and the Government appeared to be forgetting that they were the servants and not the masters. When Dissenters received as much of the public money as Churchmen, their outcry might lay them open to the charge of intolerance; but they dare not tolerate a grievous wrong, for if they held their peace the very stones might be expected to cry out. He begged of those who held their principles not to be prevented uniting with them by the fear of being thought political Dissenters. When bad men conspired to commit acts of injustice and oppression, good men must combine; and if Dissenters did not come forward now and take their proper position, the time was coming when they would be carried along with the stream, and lose all opportunity of exercising a beneficial influence.—John Keed, Esq., and the Rev. J. T. Wigner, followed in other speeches; and, among other things, urged the meeting to oppose the levying of a church-rate in Lynn, on Easter Monday.—Thanks were then voted to the Deputation and Chairman; and, at a late hour, the meeting dispersed.

WIGAN.—On the evening of Tuesday, the 11th instant, J. Kingsley, B.A., of London, delivered a lecture in this borough, on the evils of the State Church. The Commercial-hall had been hired for the lecture, of which public notice had been given by placards, but a party of out-pensioners were put in possession, whose services had been engaged by the authorities, from an apprehension of evil consequences from the Chartists' meetings; and the lecture was adjourned to a school-room, capable of seating three hundred persons, in the same pile of buildings. About four hundred were present, and scores of persons returned unable to obtain standing-room. The lecture lasted two hours. It would be difficult to condense this splendid oration into the

compass of a newspaper report. It was listened to by a very intelligent audience with profound attention, though frequently interrupted by simultaneous bursts of applause. At the conclusion, the Rev. William Roaf moved a vote of thanks in an amusing speech, which was seconded by William Ackroyd, Esq., of Quorndon, Leicestershire, and carried unanimously, first by a show of hands, and then by acclamation. Mr. Kingsley replied, and was again greeted by loud applause. The company seemed unwilling to separate. Thomas Cook, Esq., a borough magistrate—alluding to the appropriation of church-rates in Buckinghamshire for the payment of the collectors of sparrows' heads, mentioned by the lecturer—said that, to his knowledge, as much as £30 had been paid in one year for the same purpose out of the Wigan church-rates! A collection was made to defray the expense of printing the placards. A very general wish was expressed for another visit from Mr. Kingsley. A provisional committee was formed for future operations.—*From a Correspondent.*

SCOTTISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

PUBLIC MEETING IN EDINBURGH.

A public meeting of the friends of the Voluntary principle was held in the Synod Hall of the United Presbyterian Church, Queen-street, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of taking the necessary steps towards the formation of an Anti-state-church Association. The meeting was numerous and highly respectable. On the platform were Revs. Dr. Brown, Dr. Peddie, Dr. Harper, of Leith; Dr. Young, of Perth; Rev. Professor M'Michael, of Dumfermline; Rev. Messrs. M'Gilchrist, J. R. Campbell, George Johnston, Somerville, Finlayson, Francis Johnston, Brown, of Dalkeith; Thomson, of Slateford; Fleming, of Inverkeithing; H. M'Gill, of Glasgow; Kerr, of Alnwick; and Lang, of Portobello; James Gray, Esq.; James Peddie, Esq., W.S.; William Duncan, Esq., S.S.C.; Andrew Fyfe, Esq., S.S.C.; John Boyd, Esq.; Charles M'Laren, Esq.; George Henderson, Esq.; J. B. Johnston, Esq.; George Johnston, Esq.; A. D. Campbell, Esq.; George Laing, Esq.; Mr. Hunter, &c.

On the motion of Mr. PEDDIE, the Rev. Dr. Brown was called to the chair by acclamation.

The report of the speeches delivered at this important meeting occupies upwards of five columns of the *Scottish Press*. As it would be impossible for us to devote so much space to it we subjoin the more abridged report of the *Scotsman*.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. H. M'Gill.

The CHAIRMAN said he felt highly honoured in being called to preside in such an assembly for such a cause. As to the meeting, he saw around him many of the most intelligent, public-spirited, and religious of his fellow-citizens; and as to the cause, the more deeply he reflected on the subject, the more firmly was he persuaded that the voluntary principle was based on eternal truth and equity—(applause)—and was equally consonant with God's work in the constitution of man, and with his word in the Holy Scriptures; and that its prevalence, by removing many of the worst both of our political and ecclesiastical evils, by enabling the civil government to do its own business, and by purifying, uniting, and extending the Church, would materially advance the great ends of Christianity—"Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and good-will among men" (applause). Well nigh twenty years ago, public attention in this country was strongly directed to this subject. It was unnecessary to specify the circumstances out of which the Voluntary controversy arose, and the manner in which it was conducted. That was a long history—a history which well deserved to be written (applause). But those who were best acquainted with it would agree with him that it was but an act of justice to state that Dr. Marshall, of Kirkintilloch—(cheers)—by his able sermon, entitled "Ecclesiastical Establishments Considered," might be viewed as its originator; and by his numerous elaborate, and spirited publications, was one of its most efficient conductors from its commencement to its close. Ballantyne, Dick, Ewing, Peddie, Palmer, and Hough, who "have fallen asleep," and Wardlaw, Russell, Stark, Thomson, and other seniors, who "remain unto the present" (applause), long may they remain our *decora et tutamina*, with many juniors whom it were long to name, and who had not yet gathered all their laurels in this field of fame—were his powerful co-operators. Honour to whom honour was due! Fourteen years of animated and able discussion from the platform and the press, by such men, wrought important changes in public opinion, and indirectly produced the disruption of the Established Church, and the formation of the Free Church of Scotland (applause)—in many points of view one of the most remarkable events which had occurred in the history of Reformed Christianity—an event highly important in itself—incalculably more so from the principles it embodied, and the consequences which were likely to result from it. For some short time previously to that event, the Voluntaries, afraid of diverting their non-interference brethren—who had been their ablest antagonists, but promised now to become their most powerful co-operators [hear, hear]—in prosecuting a course, perseverance in which was so desirable on so many accounts, desisted in a great measure from active operations; and the period which had elapsed since the demonstration wrought out by their exer-

tions, and their results of the inconsistency of the incomparably least objectionable civil establishment of religion in the world, with the enjoyment of the freedom wherewith Christ had made his churches free, had been allowed by the friends of the Voluntary system to pass away without anything like systematic exertion on their part, to follow up the important advantages with which the Supreme Providence had thus furnished them, for prosecuting their cause. A conviction, growing both in extent and in strength, that the continuance of such a course was neither dutiful nor wise, led to the movement which had called them together that evening, and they were met to deliberate as to the organization and operations by which they might best help forward a cause which was in the ascendant, both in this country and throughout Europe [applause]—a cause most intimately connected with what Mr. Locke termed "absolute liberty [applause]"—just and true liberty, equal and impartial liberty—with truly free churches, and a pure, peaceable, energetic Christianity [applause]. The details of the plans matured by a provisional committee appointed at a former general meeting, were to be laid before them by gentlemen every way able to expound and recommend them, and would receive from them, he doubted not, a careful and a favourable consideration. In recommending their operations, most peaceful in their design and tendency, yet necessarily warlike in their appearance from the various forms of error and of injustice with which the statement of truth and the advocacy of right—which form the sum and substance of their work—necessarily brought them into collision, he trusted that they would avail themselves of the experience of their predecessors, imitating all that was praiseworthy, and avoiding whatever may have been deficient or faulty in their mode of conducting this high argument. He trusted there would not be less of the *fortiter in re* than was usually manifested, with somewhat more of the *suaviter in modo* than occasionally appeared during the former campaign [a laugh]. "The wisdom that descendeth not from above," with its "bitter envyings and strifes," would, he trusted, be banished equally from their councils and from their actions, and the wisdom which was from above, pure and peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy, would, he hoped, guide and influence all their proceedings [applause]. Increasing age and declining energy required him, both on public and on personal grounds, to retire into the background, so far as active exertion was concerned; but they had his most cordial good wishes, and those, too, he was sure, of all the inviolated veterans [laughter, and applause]. May you have, said the rev. doctor, able generals, supported by a well-appointed staff, and followed by a numerous disciplined host, ambidextrous, equally expert at the bow and the sword, good marksmen, whether handling the rifle or pointing the great artillery [renewed laughter and applause]. May you have a better furnished exchequer than your predecessors ever enjoyed! Never, I believe, was more work done for less money—[a laugh]—but whether with a full or an empty treasury, we heartily wish, for your own sakes as well as for that of the cause, that you may have the same wholesome appetite for self-sacrifice and unpaid labour; and that your prowess and your success may cast into the shade all the achievements of the days of other years [applause]. To be serious on what I feel to be a very serious subject, may He who is the God of such battles—may He who is the Captain in such a war—may the Father of lights—may the Prince of Peace, guide and sustain and bless you [applause]. You enter on the work in circumstances much more favourable than those in which the agitation of the question was commenced. The thoroughly indoctrinated Voluntaries in this country were then comparatively few—they may now be counted by thousands [hear]. How shorn of its strength is the Established Church of this land since that period—[applause]—how much more palpable has the absurdity become of supporting such an institution as if in any proper sense the Church of the nation [hear]. Our most formidable opponents then are now, at least, as hostile to all existing civil establishments of religion as ourselves, and have avowed principles, and embodied them in their constitution as an ecclesiastical body, in consistency with which they could accept civil sanction and support only from a state so thoroughly under religious influence, as is not very likely to be met with on this side of the millennium. Dissenting England, then asleep, is now up in arms, and the Puseyites promise to do for the Established Church of that country what the non-intrusionists have so happily accomplished for the Established Church of this country [hear, and applause]. They do seem determined to give us a new edition of "the dingin' doon o' the cathedral" [a laugh]. The state of Ireland raises many questions not easily answered, but all thinking men are becoming more thoroughly persuaded that the dissolution of the existing civil establishments of religion in that country is more likely to do good and prevent evil than the organization of a new one. I conclude with the sentiment of one of the most enlightened and influential friends of our cause, now at Rome, and who, during his sojourn on the continent, has been actively engaged in supporting it:—"Our business is not so much to separate Church and State—God himself is already separating them—but it is our work, and an important one, to prepare the minds of those around us for the completion of that separation which has already commenced" [applause].

Mr. HUNTER then read the constitution of the association, which should be "the Scottish Anti-state Church Association;" and that its leading principle should be, that all legislation by civil go-

vernments in the affairs of religion was an encroachment upon the rights of conscience and a usurpation of the Divine authority, and that the application of the resources of the State to religious purposes was unsound in principle, hostile to liberty, and opposed to the Word of God.

Mr. JAMES GRAY proposed the first resolution, approving of the constitution. He thought it was clearly evident that, if the peace and prosperity of this country were to be preserved, it must be by the removal of all abuses in our institutions, civil as well as ecclesiastical. It appeared to him that there was no greater abuse in these institutions than the Church Establishment; that there was nothing more hostile to the peace and good order of society than to support the religious teachers of a mere fraction of the community at the expense of the whole; and hence it became their duty to endeavour, by every constitutional means, to get rid of this evil. They were now in a more favourable position than they were before. Since the last agitation of the voluntary question, the flower of the Establishment had left it. If he might use the expression, although "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet" [a laugh], practical Voluntarism had done more in providing churches in the city of Edinburgh during the last five years than the Establishment had done in as many centuries [applause]. He was not far wrong when he said that five churches would accommodate all the members of the Establishment in Edinburgh; and that the other thirteen were wholly unnecessary. No possible injury would, in fact, result to the community if they were all shut up to-morrow, and the annuity-tax forthwith and for ever abolished [applause]. The state of matters in Edinburgh was, upon the whole, a fair specimen of the Established Church throughout Scotland. It was, indeed, high time for the majority, who provided religious instruction for themselves, to make another vigorous effort to put an end to this anomaly.

Professor M'MICHAEL, in seconding the resolution, stated it to be his decided conviction that they had too long kept the voluntary question in abeyance, in consequence of which they had done great injustice to their principles, to the cause of religion, and to the peace and liberty of the community. He was more and more impressed with this idea in looking at the state of Ireland for some time past. That unhappy country, now bleeding at every pore, had suffered many wrongs, and yet what was the great measure with which the Government proposed to heal the wounds of Ireland? Had it not been an attempt to pension the Roman Catholic clergy of that country into feebleness—to gag them by making them the tools of the State? [hear.] This was the expedient of Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel—as if one establishment was not enough, and more than enough, for any country under heaven [cheers]. The Established Church of Ireland ought to be levelled with the dust; and any Government, to legislate successfully for that country, must make this one of its first propositions [applause]. What was the conduct of Lord John Russell? Although Ireland was on the verge of rebellion, and the whole of the continent in a state of convulsion—with thrones tottering and kings and princes flying as fugitives—what was the remedy which he proposed? To give the country more bishops! [shame.] He had only farther to say that, if this country became involved in the convulsions going on around them, it would not be because they had too few bishops or too few State-paid clergy, but because they had too much "Church" [applause].

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried amidst acclamation, as were all the others subsequently proposed.

Dr. YOUNG, of Perth, proposed the second resolution:—

That all legislation by secular governments in affairs of religion is an encroachment upon the rights of conscience and a usurpation of divine authority; and that the application, directly or indirectly, of the resources of the State to religious purposes, is unsound in principle, hostile to liberty, and opposed to the Word of God.

He rejoiced that this movement had taken place, and he hoped that it would only be the preliminary to a general one throughout the country in support of the voluntary question. Most unquestionably they occupied, at this moment, a vantage ground which they never occupied before. The resolution involved the whole question of the British and Irish State Churches. If it were true, they were false; if it were sound, they were unsound; if it were defensible, they were indefensible. He held the resolution was defensible, and that not a single exception could be taken to any part of it. It spoke of secular legislation in religious affairs; and why?—because State Churches were what they were by act of Parliament. It was the fallible decrees of fallible men which set them up, and the fallible decrees of fallible men would set them down again. The resolution also spoke of certain peccancies; in fact, it said that against all secular legislation in religious matters there lay an indictment which contained two tremendous counts. First, such legislation, about such affairs, was an encroachment on the rights of conscience; and was not this true? If it belonged exclusively to God to give law to the conscience, then every kind of authority which came in between the conscience and His direction was a usurpation of His authority, and an encroachment of His inalienable rights [applause]. There was no getting over this. But the defenders of State Churches said that the State did not control belief. For this he did not thank them, for it could not control belief. But if it could not control belief, why did it prescribe belief? Why did it legislate when it could not prescribe? Was not this the best of all reasons why religion should be left alone? [applause.] Again, they were told that there was toleration; but to this he would reply that if it was

a duty to enact religion, there ought to be no toleration [cheers]. Let the friends of the State Church be consistent, and stand up against toleration. If they did so, he was convinced that they would bring their system to a speedy end [applause]. The other count in the indictment was, that secular legislation in religious matters was a usurpation of the Divine prerogative. It followed, as a matter of course, from what had been already said, that the rights of conscience could not be encroached upon, without, by that same act, usurping the prerogative of the Most High God. Matters connected with the exercise of worship, and of religious faith and practice, did not fall within the province of the civil ruler; but he would not detain them by quoting the passages of Scripture which could be adduced on this point. If, therefore, State Churches were a usurpation of Divine authority they were based upon ungodliness, and must come to nought [applause]. The other part of the resolution referred to the money part of the State Church question. Wherever there was a State Church, there must be money, or money's worth, for provision for that Church. If the State were to withhold the money, the Church would withhold its allegiance. The resolution said that the giving of national money for religious purposes was unsound in principle, hostile to liberty, and opposed to the word of God. It was unsound in principle, because it compelled a man to pay for an article whether he would or not; thus tempting those of the community who hated religion to hate it the more [hear]. It was hostile to civil liberty, because it separated the clergy from the body of the people, and bound them to the ruling few; thus making them the mercenaries of the State. After some other able and eloquent remarks, the rev. doctor concluded by moving his resolution.

The Rev. J. R. CAMPBELL moved the next resolution, which expressed a desire for cordial co-operation with the British Anti-state-church Association. He looked with much gratification on the movement which they had commenced; and which he hoped they would carry forward with vigour and efficiency. The retrospect of the last Voluntary agitation was a most pleasing one. Having traced its origin and its progress, and pointed out the energy and enthusiasm with which it had been prosecuted by many eminent individuals, some of whom he named, he went on to say that their adversaries, assailed in every quarter, had to retreat under the cover of establishments in the abstract; and here he could not help remarking that many of those who were most strenuous in support of that argument, had got that "abstract" as the reward of their victory [hear, and applause]. The Voluntary agitation was then carried on under stimulants of no ordinary kind; but he was afraid that they must not expect such stimulants in their present movement. The public would not be so easily roused against an institution which was now, in a great measure, *effete*, and scarcely worth powder and shot [a laugh]. Many also might not be so strongly impressed as they once were with the necessity of the movement; preferring, perhaps, the genial atmosphere of the Christian alliance to the biting blasts of controversial warfare [laughter and applause]. And then they had many friends, whose friendship he conscientiously valued, but who were, after all, to their own principles but partial friends, although they had now got into the position of real Dissenters. I hope, said Mr. Campbell, that in this movement we will not go upon the principle that we must wait upon them, but that they must come to us [cheers]. He then went on to remark that, in the present movement, they would lack the interest which prevailed in the former controversy, from having to deal with little paltry matters as to the extent of the principles; such, for instance, as a Maynooth grant, a factory bill, more bishops, and things of that kind, instead of with the question in its great characteristics [applause]. They must, however, enter on the movement with the purpose of acting in a great measure independently of passing circumstances. They must go on under the conviction that they had a great truth to establish; and, with this view, they must especially endeavour to indoctrinate the mind of the rising generation. They had an excellent model in the British Anti-state-church Association, upon which he passed a warm eulogium, as also upon Mr. Miall, as being one of its most able advocates. Mr. Campbell then incidentally touched upon the question of the Annuity-tax; told them how he had acted in regard to this kind of tax in Montrose, the only town in Scotland in which the Established clergy were paid as in Edinburgh; amused the meeting by rehearsing how his furniture had been seized for non-payment of this tax; and urged such a course of procedure as being not only a proper one for every conscientious Dissenter to pursue, but as being one which would signally tend to make known the odious nature of this tax, and lead to its abolition [applause].

The Rev. J. BROWN, Dalkeith, seconded the motion in a very amusing speech. After paying a well-turned tribute to the British Anti-state-church Association, he referred to the Evangelical Alliance, and justified his presence there to maintain his voluntary principles, although a member of that Alliance. The Association was not against the Church, nor was it against the State. It was only opposed to the bond which united the two. They wished it broken, because they believed that both State and Church would thrive the better to be separated. The bishops, he considered, would attend all the better to their spiritual duties if they were relieved of their duties as members of the House of Lords; and Lord John Russell or Sir R. Peel would manage the affairs of these three great empires more efficiently, and more beneficially, if they had neither of the three Church Establishments to attend to [cheers]. He was of opinion that, had

as the annuity-tax undoubtedly was, it was productive of some good, inasmuch as it showed exactly what the people had to pay for the support of an Established Church; and having a knowledge of this, it was the more likely they would seek its abolition, just as the people at present sought a reduction of the national expenditure, because it had directly touched their pockets in the shape of the income-tax [hear]. Alluding to the disruption, he said the Free Church had left the Establishment, not from unwillingness to take State pay, but because they found that Cæsar would only give them his money on condition that they obeyed his directions [hear]. For a long time they thought they might legislate for themselves, and that the Assembly might fashion its laws as it pleased, but Cæsar stepped in and said that it was all a mistake; that if they must have State pay, they must submit to State control [a laugh]. And it held to common sense that he who had to pay the piper, should have the selection of the tune [renewed laughter and applause]. The voluntary principle, therefore, was the only way to get out of the difficulty; to have nothing to do with Cæsar, and to ask Cæsar to have nothing to do with them [applause].

The Rev. Mr. FINLAYSON proposed the next resolution, which was to the effect that the Association should direct its energies to the repeal of those statutes by which annuity-taxes were paid in the royalty of Edinburgh, burgh of Canongate, and town of Montrose. Here was ample work for the Association; and he would be glad if they would make it quick work. It was on the 29th of April, 1829, that Dr. Marshall preached the famous sermon on Voluntaryism in the Greyfriars' Church, Glasgow; and, through the fruits of the voluntary agitation thereby created, the disruption was mainly brought about in the Scottish Establishment in 1843—a period of exactly fourteen years. Now, if the Association proceeded vigorously and well, he thought they might succeed in the destruction of the annuity-tax in half that time. He regarded it as an intolerant and altogether intolerable thing, that the Establishment should be allowed to come, and, by the strong arm of the law, take money out of the pockets of Dissenters, and devote it to the maintenance of a system of worship of which they conscientiously disapprove [applause]. Before he came to reside in Edinburgh, he heard of the case in which their worthy Chairman's goods had been despoiled in order to pay that odious tax; but he was in hopes that the voice of public indignation then raised would have for ever put an end to the system. It appeared, however, that he was mistaken; for, on coming here, he found that the monster still lived—that it was still prowling about the streets, as greedy and rapacious as ever [applause]. After a number of other remarks, showing that such a way of supporting Christianity was totally at variance with the example of the apostolic church, Mr. Finlayson sat down amidst much applause by proposing the resolution.

Mr. W. DUNCAN, S.S.C., in seconding the motion, ably entered into a number of statistical details, for which we regret we cannot find room, showing the injustice of the annuity-tax.

The Rev. Mr. BRUCE, seconded by Mr. A. FIFE, S.S.C., then moved a resolution, to the effect that a fund should be raised for the purpose of diffusing information on the nature and tendency of State interference with religion. Both gentlemen eloquently inculcated the necessity of the friends of the voluntary cause being liberal in their subscriptions, for without money the movement could not be effectively carried out.

Mr. J. A. FULLARTON, seconded by the Rev. J. B. JOHNSTON, moved the office-bearers of the society; and, after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, by the Rev. Mr. FLEMING, of Inverkeithing, the meeting broke up.

BRIDGNORTH, SALOP.—On Friday evening, 14th inst., a meeting was held in this town for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association. The Mayor kindly granted the use of the Town Hall, which was densely crowded; there could not have been fewer than five hundred persons present. The chair was taken by J. B. Grierson, Esq. The first resolution, declaring that "the interference of the civil magistrate in the affairs of the Church of Christ was opposed to the principles of religion and hostile to popular liberty," was proposed by the Rev. Alfred Tilly, Baptist Minister, and seconded by the Rev. J. Sibree, of Coventry, whose humorous exposure of the absurd arguments adduced in favour of State Churchism and able advocacy of the sentiments contained in the resolution will long be remembered. The second resolution, which expressed confidence in the British Anti-state-church Association, was proposed by Rev. J. Shaw, Independent minister, and seconded by John Kingsley, Esq., who made an eloquent and effective speech, elucidating in a clear and very forcible manner the injurious workings of a Church Establishment. Both resolutions were submitted to the meeting and carried unanimously. This is the first public meeting that has been held in Bridgnorth upon the subject, and the friends of religious freedom must have been highly gratified, by the hearty sympathy manifested by the numerous assembly in support of the principles which were advocated by the various speakers.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—The first public meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held at the Concert-room in this town, on Monday evening, when the Rev. A. Reed, of Norwich, and J. C. Williams, Esq. (the Secretary of the Association), attended as a deputation, and addressed a very numerous audience with great power, contending that Church establishments were prejudicial to Christianity, un-

authorized by Scripture, inimical to justice, and destined to vanish away; that Voluntaryism was the only legitimate mode of advancing true religion, and that it was fully adequate to its great mission. The audience became very large, and manifested a deep interest in the subject by an almost breathless silence to a late period in the evening, giving at the close a vote of thanks to the deputation with much applause.—From a correspondent.

CHURCH-RATES AT BLOCKLEY.—RATE LAID BY A MINORITY.—The tocsin of ecclesiastical war sounded in the beautiful and peaceful village of Blockley, Worcestershire, on Friday, the 7th current, between four and five o'clock in the afternoon. A church-rate is the declared field of battle. Notice of a vestry, for the day mentioned to make such a rate, appeared on a door of the church last Lord's-day. No such notice was posted on the door of the Dissenting (the Baptist) chapel—the only chapel in the place—and many of the Dissenters knew nothing of the ominous meeting until Wednesday or Thursday. When the hour announced—three o'clock—arrived, however, several Dissenters appeared; then a churchwarden, who seemed taken by surprise; then a few more Dissenters; then a Churchman; and, after those assembled had sat three quarters of an hour, in stepped the churchwarden who keeps the books. He made no apology for being late, but looked aghast, "unutterable things," when he saw several there who had not been in the habit of honouring the vestry with their presence. He then dropped a hint, by way of excuse, for not having been there punctually at the hour, and declared the great reluctance the churchwardens felt in calling the meeting for the purpose announced; stated that there had not been a church-rate in the parish for seven years; and that, though the church had an annual revenue of £45 for repairs, the sum in hand was inadequate to meet the present demands, viz., repairing the roof, &c. He added, that the vicar (who, by the way, has an income of nearly, if not more than £1,000 a year) knew nothing of this meeting of vestry; but that a chairman might be elected, if there was the likelihood of a division being come to. It was soon evident that a division would take place; and Mr. Stalker, Baptist minister, earnestly urged the immediate choice of a chairman. The churchwarden who had spoken was elected, and the Church party moved and seconded a resolution, "that a rate of twopence in the pound be now made." Mr. Stalker rose, and in an able and impressive speech, showed the unkindness, the inconsistency, the dishonesty, and the unchristian nature of these exactions. He concluded:—

Then molest us not. There is a law to secure the exaction of a church-rate when it is made, but there is no law which compels you to make it. Contribute voluntarily to your own system of worship, and keep your "church in repair." If you decline, I hope my dissenting friends will not purchase your good will by deserting their principles. With merely neutral Dissenters I have no sympathy. They are ashamed of that which is their very glory. But there are some "good men and true" who, I doubt not, would rather accompany me to the dread and anomalous tribunal of an ecclesiastical court—rather "take joyfully the spoiling of their goods," and march as one united band, one mighty phalanx, to prison itself, than to languish in privation—to sicken in damp—to rot in death, than stain the charter of that liberty, "unsung by poets—by senators unpraised." Shall we, then—must we—dare we "yield up into the hands" of any vestry "the circle of all our glory?" Never—never—NEVER. I therefore move the following amendment:—"That all compulsory payments for the support of the religious services of any sect or people are unsanctioned by the law of Christ, and subversive of the spiritual nature, and benign characteristics of his religion; that, therefore, the consideration of the church-rate now proposed be postponed for twelve months, and that the churchwardens be requested, in order to defray expenses, to solicit voluntary contributions from those who attend the church."

Mr. James Smith, silk throwster, Blockley, seconded the amendment. It was of course first put, when ten voted for it, and three for the original motion. "Was a poll demanded by the Church party?" it may be asked. No. The churchwardens with the most cool effrontery informed the vestry "the minority will enforce the rate," quoting the recent decision of Lord Denman. "Then calling a vestry meeting at all," said Mr. Stalker, "is a farce—a pure farce." "Yes," said Mr. Reynolds, "the churchwardens have called us together to insult us." "No," said the Chairman, "we did not ask you to attend in order to say whether a rate ought to be made, but whether you thought the rate we proposed too high!! The rate of 2d. in the pound will be enforced, for an adjournment for a year is tantamount to saying you will leave us without funds for that time." The ten who voted for the amendment declared they thought that if a church-rate was required only once in seven years, it was a disgrace and a shame to the Church party that they did not raise voluntarily the amount among themselves. Nevertheless the rate made by three individuals (the number three includes the Chairman!) is to be laid. It is in contemplation to call a public meeting as speedily as possible. Would that a deputation from the Anti-state-church Association could be here! Now is the time for commencing their glorious crusade in Blockley. There is a general feeling in the village and in the parish, among Churchmen as well as Dissenters, that had the annual revenue of the church (£45) been properly laid out, no rate would have been necessary. The Dissenting minister and some of his friends will resist it. Whether such resistance will summon them to cells like those occupied by the trio of Thorogood, Baines, and Simonds, remains to be seen.—From a Correspondent.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE REV. MR. SHORE.

A very numerous meeting took place at Exeter-hall, on Friday night, for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the Rev. Mr. Shore, in the persecution he had been subjected to at the hands of the Bishop of Exeter—and to devise means for his relief. There could not have been less than 5,000 present, and many hundreds were obliged to go away for want of room.

The Chair was taken by the Honourable Arthur Kinnaid, who, in stating the objects for which they had assembled, said, that it was some time since Churchmen and Dissenters—Conformists and Nonconformists—united and stood side by side in the cause of religious liberty and liberty of conscience; and if ever there was a period when they should do so again, it was that which called them together that evening [cheers]. They were met to hear the statement of his respected friend, the Rev. Mr. Shore, a faithful minister of the gospel;—they were assembled to hear from him a statement, and it would then remain for them to judge whether the people of England should suffer such a persecution without entering their loud and marked protest against it [cheers].

The Rev. J. SHORE, M.A., then came forward, and was greeted with the utmost enthusiasm. He could not, he said, look at the magnificent meeting before him without thanking God for what had happened, and taking courage to meet whatever should happen, be it what it may. He was truly thankful for the opportunity thus afforded him of bringing before such a meeting a statement of the persecution he had suffered for the last four years, and the more so, as he believed that his case was misunderstood in consequence of misrepresentation. He was confident that it need only be made fully known, and some alteration should take place in the existing state of the law [cheers]. As the circumstances of his case extended over a considerable period of time, he had committed a statement of them to paper, which he would take the liberty of reading to the meeting. Mr. Shore then read a detailed statement of his case, which is altogether too long for insertion in our columns, and with the principal facts of which our readers are familiar. He gave a very full detail of the circumstances which had led to his prosecution in the Court of Arches, showing that having been unsuccessful in obtaining a renewal of the Episcopal license, he had, with the sanction and support of the Duke of Somerset, the proprietor of the Chapel, and the concurrence of the great majority of his congregation, formally registered it as a place of worship for Protestant Dissenters, under the provisions of the Toleration Act, retaining the use of the liturgy, and other services of the Church of England. The ultimate decision of the Ecclesiastical Courts had been that he could not, as an ordained clergyman, secede from the Established Church, or perform any religious services without the license of his bishop. Regarding it still as his conscientious duty to preach the Gospel as a Nonconformist, he had continued the services at Bridgetown, notwithstanding the injunction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, by which act he had subjected himself to the penalty of contumacy, which was imprisonment for life, unless, which he could not conscientiously do, he admitted himself to have been in error. He maintained that the utmost penalty prescribed by the Canon Law was excommunication and degradation from the clerical office, with a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, and that even this course had never been adopted towards the numerous clergymen who had before seceded from the Church, either to join the communion of Rome, or any sect of Protestant Dissenters, and called upon the friends of religious liberty to obtain the repeal of this remnant of the Penal Laws, which had by universal consent become obsolete, which not only deprived him of the right of preaching the gospel according to his conscience, or of entering into any trade or profession for the maintenance of his wife and family, but which would actually confine him in a prison for the remainder of his life. He concluded:—

The Bishop says:—"Mr. Shore may be deposed at once from the ministry without the cost to him, so far as I know, of a single shilling." Why, then, four years ago, when he knew that I had left the Church and had become a Nonconformist, did he not depose me? Can he expect that I will again acknowledge his authority, and ask at his hands for degradation? I cannot do it.

Let him cut me off from the Church by deposition or excommunication; but as I have been guilty of no crime, I will ask for no degradation and no punishment.

My case is now before you.

I appeal to the clergy of that Church in which I was brought up, and ask, whether they are content that a bishop shall have power to pursue a clergyman as I and others have been pursued in the diocese of Exeter. I appeal to Englishmen and ask, whether a clergyman shall not have the power of seceding from the Church, and becoming a Nonconformist, without being exposed to Ecclesiastical Courts—to ruined circumstances—to and to imprisonment. And I ask every friend of religious liberty, in and out of Parliament, to aid me in seeking for myself and others deliverance from those laws which have been brought to bear against me.

He thanked them for the kindness with which they received him, and was then ready to answer any questions which might be put to him.

The Rev. Mr. BUTTEL next addressed the meeting, and after referring to Mr. Shore's case, and to the high estimation in which he is held by his own congregation and the Duke of Somerset, alluded to his own case, which occurred seventeen years ago, when he, for preaching in the open air, was prosecuted in the Ecclesiastical Courts. That was one of the first acts of the Bishop of Exeter when he was installed into his diocese, and he had gone on since,

and would go on to the end, if the law allowed him. There was no such power possessed by one man in England over another as that of a bishop over his curate, for he could not raise an arm without leave, but, like the starling in Yorick, he went round his cage from morning until night, and could do nothing but exclaim, "I can't get out" [laughter]. The rev. gentleman, after calling on the meeting to uphold the Rev. Mr. Shore, concluded amid loud cheers.

The CHAIRMAN then read a letter from the Honourable and Rev. Baptist Noel, in which he stated that he was prevented from attending in consequence of a letter he had received from his diocesan, but denouncing any law which would expose Mr. Shore to imprisonment, contrary to the Toleration Act, as unchristian and unconstitutional.

The Rev. Mr. CRAIG moved the first resolution, (for which see advertisement).

The Rev. Dr. MORTIMER suggested, that, as clergymen of the Church of England were present, it would be better to omit the name of the offending Bishop.

The proposition not having been well received,

The Rev. Dr. MORISON seconded the resolution, and expressed his belief, that if Mr. Shore were made to suffer for an odious law, he would be the last who would do so, for that law would be repealed. He rejoiced to see so many Church-of-England men present, for they pledged themselves to break one link of the Church-and-state system [cheers]. If the union of Church and State did not exist, the Bishop of Exeter could not persecute the Rev. Mr. Shore through the means of the Court of Arches in the name of the Queen; and he rejoiced to see clergymen present to aid in putting an end to such a system.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. ROBERT AINSIE moved the second resolution. He claimed their sympathy for Mr. Shore, for to-morrow morning the return would be made to the Court of Arches, stating that he had been guilty of a contempt of that Court, that contempt being, preaching the Gospel of Christ, and the next day might find him in Newgate. A sum of £400 had been already collected to defray his expenses, and it was to be hoped that, as men, Englishmen, and Christians, they would come forward and bear a part of his burden [cheers]. The rev. gentleman concluded by moving the second resolution.

The Rev. JAMES SHERMAN seconded it, and avowed his conviction that the Government would be glad if public opinion forced them to bring in a bill which would put an end to the doings of that persecuting bishop.

The Rev. Dr. MASSIE moved that a petition be presented to both Houses of Parliament, praying for an alteration in the ecclesiastical law of this country. After adverting to the facts of Mr. Shore's case, he proceeded to state that, in this matter, the conduct of the Bishop of London did him very little credit [loud cheers].

The Rev. Dr. MORTIMER implored the meeting and the chair not to permit such a line of observation [cheers, and cries of "Oh, oh"].

The Rev. Dr. MASSIE had the highest respect for his friend and brother, the Rev. Dr. Mortimer; but he could not help again stating that the conduct of the Bishop of London was very discreditable.

The Rev. Dr. MORTIMER then rose up, and in an angry manner proceeded to leave the meeting; but consented to return on the assurance that he would be heard in reply.

The Rev. Mr. BINNEY seconded the adoption of the petition, but suggested that the name of the Bishop of Exeter should be omitted.

The petition, after some discussion, was adopted as originally proposed.

The Rev. Dr. MORTIMER then expressed his deep sense of the many obligations he owed his beloved diocesan for twenty years, and said he would rather be hissed, and hooted, and pelted by them, than have his lordship spoken of in harsh terms.

A committee was then appointed to carry the resolutions of the meeting into effect, after which, thanks being voted to the Chairman, the meeting adjourned.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER A FAMILY.—On Saturday the metropolitan police received information of an attempt made at Wigan to destroy the lives of William Stopford and his family by an explosion of gunpowder. It appears that Stopford resides in a small house near the Star Inn, and within a hundred feet of the North Union railway station. A few days ago, a turn-out of the hands at one of the collieries at Standish took place. Stopford was employed by the owners to make arrangements with some of the men as to their resuming work. This proceeding gave offence to most of the men, and they were not slow in saying that they would one day pay him out for not joining the ranks of the disaffected. Shortly after midnight on Thursday last, a number of persons were observed standing round Stopford's residence, and soon after they had left, a terrific explosion occurred, which forced the roof partly off, and lifted the floorings. Fortunately the whole of the inmates escaped. Upon making an examination, it was found that one of the squares of glass had been removed from the lower window, and a glass vessel, filled with gunpowder, had been placed in the parlour, from which a train of powder had extended a considerable distance. The latter was then fired. A reward is offered for the apprehension of the guilty parties.

Liszt, the celebrated pianist, has gone to Hungary, his native country, where he has been not only elected as one of the members of the Legislative Assembly, but appointed one of the Vice-Presidents.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CIRCULATION OF THE "NONCONFORMIST."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have just forwarded to your publishers the resolutions of a meeting lately held in Bristol, for the purpose of assisting in the effort to increase the circulation of the *Nonconformist*; and although unwilling to occupy your columns with matters merely personal, yet I cannot forbear individually thanking you for the benefit and the pleasure that I have derived from your writings. I am familiar with the pages of the *Nonconformist* from its commencement to the present time, and from no other source, except the Bible, have I learned so much concerning human rights and duties. There are many persons ready to bear similar testimony. I lately called upon a venerable Christian man to request a subscription for the Anti-state-church Association: he gave liberal answers, observing that the *Nonconformist* had instructed him and his family as to the nature and working of the State-church principle. And what a touching tribute to the value of your labours was that which you received at the close of an Anti-state-church meeting in Bristol, when a working man addressed you, and said that he had walked thirty miles that day in order to thank you for your instruction, and to shake you by the hand. I might mention many other facts of the same kind, but will not further intrude upon your space.

Yours, dear sir, most sincerely,
ROBERT NORRIS.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

BAPTISM OF A MINISTER BY IMMERSION.—On Sabbath evening last, 9th instant, at Beverley, the Rev. K. Johnston, recently minister of the Presbyterian Church, Birdhopecraig, Northumberland (in connexion with the Presbyterian Church in England), was baptized by his brother, the Rev. Robert Johnston, in Well-lane chapel. The candidate delivered an interesting address on the occasion, in which he stated his reasons for renouncing infant baptism, and wishing to attach himself to the Baptist body. The chapel was crowded, the audience listened to the address with profound attention, and many were deeply affected by the solemn service.—*From a correspondent.*

Mr. Robert Alfred Vaughan, B.A., the son of Dr. Vaughan, has received and accepted a unanimous call to become minister of Argyle Chapel, Bath, with the Rev. William Jay.

OPENING OF HOUNDS-GATE SCHOOL-ROOMS.—The congregation connected with the Castle-gate chapel, in this town, by a noble effort, have just completed the erection of spacious school-rooms, on the site of their old ones, in Hounds-gate; and the opening of them was solemnized on Wednesday week by a special service of prayer and thanksgiving. The Rev. S. McAll (the president), Dr. Allott (the late minister of the congregation), and J. Wild (Independent minister), Messrs. A. Wells and R. Preston (deacons of the church), and Mr. G. Herbert, publicly engaged in prayer. A public meeting was held on Thursday evening week, when nearly 350 persons took tea in the boys' and girls' rooms, which were conveniently thrown into one large room of forty feet square, capable of seating 400 scholars. Three other rooms for the adult and infant classes are also comprised in the building, which stands on about twice as much ground as its predecessor. The erection was on the plan of Mr. Booker, and its cost has been £869; the whole of which has already been more than subscribed—indeed, the sum obtained was as much as £1,031, and that without any trouble. Messrs. East and Hill were the builders. The meeting was attended by most of the influential persons connected with the church and congregation.—*Notes Review.*

POWER OF THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.—At the annual meetings of the Congregational Union of Scotland, which took place in Glasgow last week, it was stated, by the convener of the board that had been appointed three years previously for liquidating the debt affecting the chapels belonging to that body, amounting at that time to £22,000 and upwards, that the movement had been brought to a successful termination—that about £19,000 had been already paid; thus leaving little more than £3,000 due at present, the whole of which, however, has been realized, with the exception of £250, and will be paid as soon as the title-deeds of the chapels are in a satisfactory state. In the course of a few months, therefore, the chapels of the Scottish Congregationalists will be entirely free of debt.

BRILL, BUCKS.—On the afternoon of Friday, the 7th instant, the foundation-stone of a new building for the purposes of a chapel and Sunday-school was laid at Oakley (an out-station connected with Brill), by William Leavers, Esq., of Islington, who kindly came forward some time since and purchased the property on which the new building is to stand, and promised £50 towards its erection. Appropriate addresses were delivered by Mr. Leavers and the Rev. J. C. Harrison, of London. About £100 are now either paid or promised, but £250 will be required to meet the cost. The building is to be 31 feet 6 inches by 21 feet 6, and will seat 150 persons without a gallery.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—The Rev. John Cooper, late of Horton College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become pastor of the Particular Baptist church and congregation at Sparrow-hill, Loughborough, Leicestershire, and entered upon his labours the first Sabbath of April.

The Austrian Government has forbidden the exportation of gold or silver coin till the end of June.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

The members of the Provisional Government have assumed Professorships in the College of France—Lamartine, that of International Law; Garnier Pagès, Financial and Commercial Economy; Armand Marrast, Civil Laws; Ledru Rollin, French and Foreign Administrative Institutions.

The number of Moveable National Guards is to be reduced from 24,000 to half that number; but the organization of the frontier armies, and the preparation in the naval arsenals, continue with great activity.

The banking world is in consternation at a project said to be in the minds of Government, to take the Bank of France and all its provincial branches into their hands, and issue an enormous quantity of inconvertible paper. Nevertheless, commerce is somewhat improved. After the receipt of the news of the quiet issue of Monday's proceedings in London, the Funds went up to 61: on Saturday last they had closed at 53.

The failure of Messrs. Theveneyssen and Co. is announced.

LORD BROUGHAM A FRENCH CITIZEN.—A correspondence appears in the journals of Saturday evening between Lord Brougham and M. Cremieux, the provisional Minister of Justice, which proves that Lord Brougham did seriously apply for letters of naturalization, which would invest him with all the rights of a native Frenchman, including that of sitting in the Assembly. The Minister of Justice explained, in reply, that such naturalization could only be granted on the condition that Lord Brougham would renounce his rank, privileges, and rights as a peer of England in that country, for that France could not acknowledge a citizen so long as he should claim and exercise rights as a British subject. Upon this Lord Brougham withdrew his application.

THE REVENUE.—The account of indirect revenue on the customs for the first quarter has just appeared, and shows a deficit as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year amounting to above sixteen millions of francs. The total produce of the first quarter of 1847 was 194½ millions, while that of the present quarter is a little short of 178 millions. A compensation for this is reported to have been found in the direct taxes, in which there is an excess as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year of not less than twenty-four millions, but this is apparent rather than real. A large proportion of the tax-payers, with a view of assisting the country in the difficult crisis of the revolution, instead of paying as usual their quarter's taxes, paid for the full year—75 per cent., therefore, of this amount consists of the anticipated revenue of the remainder of the year.

DISTURBANCES IN THE PROVINCES.—The *Presses* publishes a long list of provincial towns in which serious disturbances have arisen in consequence of the arbitrary conduct of the commissaries of the Provisional Government. "We," says the *Presses*, "have received letters from Montauban, Toulouse, Bordeaux, Digne, Gaillac, Troyes, Gueret, Lille, Amiens, Beauvais, &c., in which the strongest indignation is expressed, and in the most bitter terms, against 'the deplorable choice' and the revolting acts of the commissaries sent from Paris to convert the departments to Republicanism. No resistance had been anywhere offered to the Republic, but now, in consequence of the conduct of the commissaries, a reaction is everywhere spreading. Whose fault is this? We have determined to refrain from expressing any blame with regard to the Provisional Government until the period fixed for the meeting of the National Assembly, and we shall therefore merely ask the question without replying to it."

PLOTTING OF THE COMMUNISTS DEFEATED, — DEMONSTRATION IN FAVOUR OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

In consequence of a notice which appeared in the journals, a meeting of operatives assembled on Sunday morning in the Champ de Mars, for the professed purpose of electing from among their class certain officers of the *etat-major* of the National Guard. This, however, was only a pretext with some, although others were the dupes of it, and a proceeding directed against a part of the members of the Provisional Government was designed. This impression quickly spread, and was circulated throughout Paris. The Government ordered the commanders of the National Guard to call that body under arms. At noon the *rappel* was beaten, and within an hour, as if by magic, 100,000 men were under arms. All the great squares and places bristled with bayonets. The Place de la Concorde was literally covered with troops, horse and foot. The square facing the Hôtel de Ville was similarly filled. Every room in that building was suddenly filled with guards. Cannon were pointed from all its doors, and it became impregnable. The entire line of quays on the north side of the river, from the Hôtel de Ville to the Place de la Concorde, presented one dense mass of armed citizens. The extensive area between the Tuilleries and the Louvre was completely filled by the Guard Mobile. The various legions of the Guard National at the same time filled the Place de la Madeleine, the Place de la Bourse, the Place du Palais Royal, and, in short, all the places of ordinary rendezvous throughout the capital. Another hour had not elapsed before this immense army was reinforced by thousands of National Guards from the "banlieue," which poured in through all the barriers, and, in fine, Paris, tranquil in the forenoon, and little expecting such a spee-

tales, presented the astonishing aspect of 200,000 men fully armed and ready for a combat. Ball cartridge were distributed at the Hôtel de Ville, the mairies, and other usual depôts.

In passing through these great armed assemblies, the cries which were everywhere heard indicated a unanimous feeling in favour of that portion of the Government against which it was rumoured an attack had been intended. "Vive Lamartine!" was everywhere repeated, and "Vive la République!" was invariably followed by "A bas les Communistes!" Of the various rumours which were in circulation during the morning, that which assumed most consistency and was most generally credited was, that a plot was formed to remove MM. de Lamartine, Marrast, and Garnier Pagès, and to substitute for them MM. Blanqui and Cabet, the leaders of the Communists; to postpone the elections to the 31st May; to disarm the National Guard; to dismiss the entire magistracy, and to replace it by men from the working classes; and finally, to remove all the superior officers of the army, and to substitute for them the leaders of the clubs. The attitude and manifest sentiments of the National Guard and the Guard Mobile have crushed the plot without a blow being struck. A body of operatives, variously estimated, but probably not exceeding 25,000, marched, at about two o'clock, from the Champs de Mars and the Champs Elysées along the quays towards the Hôtel de Ville. When the head of the column arrived at the Bridge of Arcola, their further progress was rendered impossible by the dense mass of National Guards they there encountered. They then demanded that a deputation should be allowed to proceed to the Hôtel de Ville to the Provisional Government. They repeated again and again that they had only assembled to name their officers of the état-major, whom they desired to present. The deputation was accordingly admitted, and the main body filed off. Nothing could exceed the admirable spirit of tranquil firmness which marked the conduct and manner of the National Guard.

In the evening another manifestation took place, still greater and more solemn. The *rappel* was again beaten, all the legions assembled to go to the Hôtel de Ville. They defiled on the quays, beginning at eight o'clock, and at ten they had not finished. During the whole march shouts, tremendous and continuous, were heard from 200,000 voices—"A bas les Communistes!"—"A bas Cabet!"—"A bas les faïnéans!"—"Vive la République!"—"Vive le Gouvernement Provisoire!"—"Vive Lamartine!" Such were the shouts which exhibited the dispositions of the people on the events of the day. At a ine o'clock the Provisional Government addressed the National Guard.

All Paris was spontaneously illuminated.

Extraordinary precaution was taken at the Ministry of the Interior. Two companies of National Guards Mobile were stationed in the principal court of the hotel. All was arranged to resist a *coup-de-main*.

This movement on the part of the working classes is thought to have been in some degree connected with what is said to have taken place on Saturday evening, at a sitting of the Provisional Government, when very high words are said to have passed between the ultra-republicans and the more moderate members. M. Ledru Rollin declared that matters were not urged on with sufficient vigour, and that, if more decided steps were not taken, the elections would prove a complete failure. M. Marrast, on the other side, announced himself altogether opposed to the views of his colleague, and declared it to be his firm intention, as well as that of his more moderate colleagues, to respond to the general wishes of the nation, and proceed with moderation, as otherwise nothing could ensue but civil war. The discussion continued for some time, principally between M. Ledru Rollin and M. Marrast, until the former became irritated, and accused M. Marrast of betraying his principles, and called him a *lache*. No sooner was the disgraceful epithet uttered than M. Marrast gave M. Ledru Rollin a blow. The other members then interfered, and prevented further violence.

The Provisional Government has decreed that, on 1st January, 1849, the tax on salt shall be abolished; that from the same period the prohibition of the import of foreign salt shall cease; that such salt shall pay 25c. per 100 kilogrammes if imported by land; 50c. if by sea, and in French vessels, and 2f. if by foreign vessels. The salt of the French colonies and possessions is to be admitted free of all duty, as is also the salt for the supply of vessels engaged in the cod-fishery. In the preamble to the decree, the duty on salt is described as the "most onerous and most iniquitous" of all taxes on articles of consumption.

By a decree, dated Saturday, the Provisional Government has decided that the woods and forests of the private domain of the ex-King shall be placed under the control of the Administration des Forêts, the proceeds of them being kept distinct in the accounts of the agents of the state.

The *Moniteur* publishes a proclamation of the Mayor of Paris, M. Armand Marrast, informing the citizens that the electoral lists should be closed at midnight on the 20th, that the elections should commence at 6 o'clock in the morning of the 23rd, and the poll remain open until nine o'clock p.m., when the ballot-boxes are to be closed and sealed, and only re-opened on the 24th.

The ex-Minister Count Molé is a candidate for a seat in the National Assembly. Louis Napoleon, Napoleon, son of Jerome, and Pierre, son of Lucien, are candidates in Corsica.

DESIGNS OF M. LEDRU ROLLIN AND HIS FRIENDS.—The following account of a conversation between one of these Commissioners and a law student will throw some light upon the designs of M. Ledru Rollin and his friends. A young law student, of

the name of Cheviot, seated in a diligence for Montauban, found himself in company with M. Sauriac, the Government Commissioner for that place, and in a letter of the local newspaper he thus reports the conversation he held with that personage:—

"Did you observe the effect produced on the Bourse," asked M. Cheviot of a friend seated near him, "by the rumour of the retirement of Ledru Rollin?" The Government Commissioner himself interfered, although not addressed. "You attach too much consequence," he said, "to Bourse talk. M. Ledru Rollin has no intention of retiring. He is the only man in the Government who inspires any confidence—let banks fall—let commerce perish—*tant mieux*—we shall the sooner arrive at our end. So long as there are rich, *voyez vous*, we must work their ruin, and, at this moment, only a handful of men suffer, we must not listen to them." "Do you think, then," asked M. Cheviot "that the workmen are not suffering?" "No; because they are masters of all; and if they suffer, they will not long suffer." "We are Republicans both, but do not see things in the same point of view." "Oh, no, Monsieur, you are no Republican; the only true Republicans are those of the eve. We will have no Republicans of the morrow in the National Assembly." "But if the departments return such, and if the city of Paris return such, you must receive them." "No, we would not receive them." "What?" "I tell you," repeated the Government Commissioner, "we will not receive them; they shall never reach the Chamber." "I do not comprehend you." "They will not reach the Chamber, because there is a bridge to pass, and under the bridge the Seine."

The publication of this letter caused a great sensation at Montauban. The people with one voice demanded that the Government Commissioner should quit the place—and he had to go.

GERMANY.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.—The German papers publish a proclamation of the Committee of the National Assembly at Frankfurt addressed to the people of Germany, in which the attention of the people is directed to the elections for the Constituent National Assembly. It inculcates the great importance of these elections, as on them will depend the rights and liberties of the people, and that the people must show their good sense and political honesty in these elections. Every individual member of the State is an elector. No consideration of rank, position, religion, or wealth, ought to influence the voters. The right of election is not tacked to a tax, no independent man is to be excluded. Direct and immediate elections are recommended. Every German is eligible throughout the country. The proclamation calls finally upon all patriots to promote truly patriotic elections, and to make them conscientious and impartial. It is dated on the 8th inst. The same Committee publishes a list of the resolutions agreed upon in the National Assembly.

THE PRUSSIAN DIET was dissolved on the 10th, not without coming to an important decision. It revoked all its elections of Deputies to the Diet at Frankfurt. Nearly three days had been occupied by these proceedings, which have been strongly condemned. The municipality of Berlin and the University protested against it. Public meetings made similar demonstrations. Protests were also entered against the legality of such an election under present circumstances, even by members of the Diet itself. M. Camphausen entered into a justification of the course taken by the Diet in electing the representatives.

That it was the mode specified in the decree of the Germanic Confederation, and an understanding to the same effect had been come to with the other States of Germany, because there did not appear to be time enough for a direct election. This position of affairs was at the present modified [hear]. His Majesty on the previous evening had received a message from the Diet at Frankfurt, stating that the Confederation, by a decree of the 7th of April, had returned to its first decision in favour of the system of direct election for the Diet which is to meet on the 1st of May. One deputy is to be elected for every 50,000 inhabitants. In the qualification of the electors no distinctions are to be made between classes or religious creeds. Every German, being of age, is an elector in his own country; every German of age is eligible as a deputy in all Germany. Political exiles themselves, if they return to Germany, will be electors, and eligible in the countries of which they are the subjects [sensation]. The result of this communication from the Diet has been, that his Majesty cancels the elections that have taken place.

The Marshal of the Diet (the Prince de Solms) then formally put the question to the Diet, whether it consented to annul its elections. The vote was almost unanimously in the affirmative. The Marshal called for three cheers for the King, which were very warmly given, and M. Camphausen, the Royal Commissioner, in the name of his Majesty, declared the Diet dissolved.

According to letters from Wiesbaden of the 12th, it appears that the two leaders of the Republican party, Hecker and Struve, from Mannheim, who on the 3rd of April, at Frankfurt, nearly succeeded in causing a tumult in the Parliament, have been obliged to fly to France in consequence of a detected conspiracy against Germany; and a third, whose name, we believe, is Skiver, has been seized and thrown into prison.

The German papers report serious disturbances in Cassel, where the military wished to re-establish their former reign of physical force. They were almost routed by the citizens of the town. The Duke of Hesse Cassel has published a proclamation expressive of his indignation at the outrage attempted by his guards, whose dissolution as a regiment he pronounces, and adds, that the culprits among the soldiers shall at once be tried by court-martial.

From the north of Germany we have sad accounts of an incendiary insurrection in the kingdom of Saxony, which the Government have not as yet been able to put down.

ANARCHY PREVAILS IN POSEN. A kind of battle was fought on the 9th by the troops under Colonel Leacock and the Polish population of the town of Trzemeszno. The Colonel had already destroyed all the barricades which the Poles had erected in the streets, and was in the act of storming the houses, from the windows of which the Poles kept up a brisk fire, when he received a letter from a superior officer ordering him to desist, as deputations from the heads of the insurgents had arrived at Posen, who promised that no further violence should be committed, and that they would lay down their arms. The Prussian military commanders in other parts of the Grand Duchy are zealously engaged in disarming the Poles, who, indeed, have made a very bad use of their weapons. Count Potocki, a Polish landlord, was shot by some Hussars who had just disarmed the inhabitants of his village.

THE BAVARIAN DIET is actively engaged on the question of the elections for the German parliament. In the sitting of the 11th, it was decided that every person of full age, belonging to the states of Bavaria, and paying a direct tax, should have the privilege of voting, and that every German of full age, and belonging to the state, shall be eligible. This decision was referred to the Upper Chamber, and was to be brought under discussion on the 13th.

AUSTRIA.

In spite of the political events that had distracted the empire, and of the loss of her influence and positions in most portions of her Lombardo-Venetian possessions, Austria is represented as ordering new levies of men and the repair and fortification of fortresses with a vast appearance of vigour.

The evening supplement to the *Wiener Zeitung* of the 8th states, that Count Hartig and Hofrath Czornig have been sent to Lombardy as pacificators; on what basis we are not informed. Accounts have been received of disturbances both at Brunn and Grätz, but they appear to have been quelled. The report of the expulsion of the Jews from Warasdin is contradicted.

The question of the compulsory celibacy of the Romish priesthood has been mooted in the Diet at Pressburg by an ecclesiastical member. M. Kossuth replied that he was rejoiced to find the subject discussed in such quarters, and that he had received innumerable letters from the clergy complaining of the prohibition.

The state of trade continues most unsatisfactory. The funds have again fallen, even below the former level; some failures have taken place, and more serious disasters are anticipated. There are no transactions except for ready money.

The Emperor of Austria had left Vienna for Pressburg, to preside in person at the close of the session of the Hungarian Diet.

A decree of the Emperor, by his own hand, declares the inviolability of all letters and correspondence; and another appoints the Archduke Franz Carl, who is very popular, to assist in forming the Constitution.

An order of Jesuits, called Lygurianers, have been forced, by public opinion, to evacuate their convent in the "Maria Stiege." Each carriage which conveyed them was escorted by National Guards to protect them from violence. On the bridge leading to the Leopoldstadt a handsome carriage, supposed to contain some of them, was stopped by the crowd, who allowed it to proceed immediately on discovering their mistake.

ITALY.

DEFEAT OF THE AUSTRIANS AT THE MINCIO.—Accounts of an important victory, gained by the Sardinian army under the King, at the bridge of Goito, on the Mincio, on the evening of the 8th, have arrived. The battle lasted two hours, after which the Austrians retreated in confusion towards Mantua, leaving a great number of killed, wounded, and prisoners, with four pieces of artillery. The village of Goito, situated on the right bank of the Mincio, that is to say, on the bank which the combined Italian army was approaching, was strongly entrenched and occupied by the Austrians. Behind it was the bridge which this affair will render so memorable. The village was obstinately defended by the Austrians. After the flight of the latter, and the blowing up of the bridge, there remained only a narrow ledge or footway protected by the other parapet. By this path the Piedmontese army marched across in single file, under a murderous fire from the Austrians, who had just formed on the opposite bank. After the accomplishment of this success, and the rout of the Austrians, who fled right and left, some to Mantua and some to Verona, the Sardinians repaired the bridge by planks, making a roadway sufficiently wide to enable the entire army with the cavalry, artillery, and baggage, to cross the river, which they were about to do when the last accounts left. Speaking of this event, the Milan correspondent of the *Times* says:—

It is expected that both Verona and Mantua will now be separated and strictly blockaded, and that the mass of the Sardinian troops, aided by the Tuscans and Romans, will be at liberty to act against the reinforcements said to be coming from Vienna under the command of General Nugent. The revolution is well organized in the Friuli, and a local government established in the capital Udina, so that the Austrians entering at that side will receive a warm reception, while those who may attempt the passages of the Tyrol will find the main points already in the hands of volunteers, who were despatched in great numbers in that direction as soon as the liberation of Milan took place. But we must be patient for the result of military operations, as we do not know the extent of the enemy's resources, or whether the Sardinian, Roman, and Tuscan troops are handled in a soldier-like manner.

While the Piedmontese army are thus occupied on the line of the Mincio, a body of volunteers and

national guards of the Lombard and auxiliary troops, amounting to 8,000 or 10,000 men, have been detached to make a diversion in the Italian Tyrol, and at the date of the last advices were at different places to the west of the Lago di Garda, and to the east of the Lago d'Idro, a small lake to the north of Brescia. The object of this expedition was to attack, and, if possible, occupy, Trent, Arco Riva, and Roveredo, and thus cut off the communication between the Austrians and Vienna.

The Roman division has crossed the Po, advancing on Rovigo—10,000 strong—accompanied by two Swiss regiments, and 5,000 volunteers.

On the 8th, the Provisional Government of Milan published two important proclamations. In the first it declares the dissolution of all the local provisional governments. Deputations of one, or at most three, members will be named, who will be united with the Provisional Government of Milan, and thus will be formed a Central Provisional Government of Lombardy. The second decree nominates a commission, charged with projecting, and immediately presenting a project, for the regulating the convocation of the primary assemblies. £80,000 had been received in voluntary contributions in the city of Milan alone, and the taxes due on the 20th of May were to be prepaid on the 20th of this month.

From Florence we learn that the Grand-Duke, after having recalled his representative at the Court of Vienna, has ordered passports to be given to the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires in Tuscany.

The Duke of Parma and Placentia has accorded a very liberal constitution to his people. The following are the principal points in it:—

The State shall be governed by a moderate, hereditary, and constitutional monarchy, with the representative form.

The Roman Catholic religion is declared to be that of the State, but others are to be permitted.

The Sovereign is inviolable, but the Ministers are responsible. The Sovereign possesses the usual powers, and can grant pardons to condemned persons, but not to Ministers who have betrayed their duty.

The legislative power is to be exercised by the Sovereign and a Chamber of Deputies.

Every citizen is to be an elector at the age of twenty-five. A law is to declare the conditions on which a citizen can be elected as a deputy. The deputies are to be paid by their respective communes.

The Chamber of Deputies is to be assembled every year.

No tax can be imposed without its sanction, and that of the Sovereign.

The press is to be free.

Judges are not to be liable to removal.

No foreign troops can be taken into the service of the State, except in virtue of a law.

At Naples, the cessation of amicable relations with the Imperial Government is formal and complete. Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, the Austrian Minister, has demanded his passports, and left the kingdom of the Two Sicilies; and the Neapolitans are openly encouraging the embarkation of volunteers to take part in the conflict now actually commenced upon the banks of the Adige and the Mincio.

The *Gazetta de Venezia* of the 4th contains some documents, including an address of the Provisional Government "to the United Provinces of the Venetian republic," assuring them that they shall all enjoy equal rights and advantages; 2nd, an important commercial decree, abolishing the duties on cotton yarn and cotton manufactures, mixed and unmixed, within the custom-house territory of the united provinces of the republic; 3rd, a decree ordering the formation of a regular cavalry corps of 200 soldiers, to serve for four years; and lastly, a multitude of addresses of the Provisional Government to the States of Italy and other foreign powers, in which it declares its intention of renewing the old friendly relations with them, and proclaims that it will henceforth only form an integral part of the political league which is to unite all Italy.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

DEFEAT OF THE INSURGENTS.—Hostilities have seriously commenced between the forces of Denmark and those of Schleswig-Holstein. A very fierce battle was fought near Flensburg, on the 10th, in which the Danes had a decided superiority in numbers as well as in their cavalry and artillery. The Holsteiners, 10,000 strong, retired on Bau from Flensburg, dislodged by the preparations for a bombardment from the harbour, which was full of Danish gun-boats. But the Danes came on in superior numbers, and drove all before them, despite a stubborn resistance. Two German regiments were almost annihilated. The loss of human life is not yet accurately ascertained; it is said there are about 1,400 killed on both sides. The noblest families of the country have lost their sons and brothers. The corps of students from Kiel, 150 young men, have been altogether cut up. After their victory, the Danes pushed southwards, and entered Schleswig at two in the morning of the 11th. The Danish troops in Schleswig are now 20,000.

An article in the *Cologne Gazette* expresses the feelings of the Germans, and their grief for the late events in the duchies. The *Cologne Gazette* admits that the Germans were forced to give up their positions, that the city of Schleswig is taken, and that almost the whole of that duchy is now in the hands of the Danes. The same paper adds, that the Prussian troops have at last been ordered to advance. A letter from Hamburg in the *Weser Zeitung* mentions the arrival of two more Prussian regiments with six pieces of ordnance, who, after a short stay, continued their march. They had orders to proceed at once to Schleswig. Some Hanoverian artillery arrived on the 10th at Harburg. The number of the Prussian troops now assembled in Rendsburg is 8,700. No Prussian cavalry has at yet arrived in the duchies.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has prohibited the exportation of rye, flour of every kind, and oats from the kingdom of Poland, until further notice. This

announcement virtually puts an end for the present to a large portion of the supplies of corn shipped in the Prussian ports and drawn from Poland; and it indicates the formation of large granaries of corn for the supply of the army now being collected on the Polish frontier.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 26th of March, in the *Oesterreichische Zeitung*, gives an account of the strength of the Russian army. It is as follows:—

	Men.	Horses.	Guns.
European army of the line	386,000	79,720	1,200
European army of reserve	182,000	17,920	472
Caucasian army	65,000	17,680	168
Trans-Caucasian army	80,000	12,000	144
Finland army	17,800	2,900	60
Orenburg army	32,600	14,800	60
Siberian army	17,800	2,400	48
Corps of Cossacks	50,000	50,000	—
	831,200	196,720	2,152

DISCLOSURES OF LOUIS PHILIPPE'S PORTFOLIO.

The disclosures most damaging to royalty in France have been effected by the medium of a new publication, *La Revue Rétrospective*, established by M. Taschereau for the special purpose of putting forth papers discovered in the Tuilleries after Louis Philippe's flight. The first number contains documents relating to M. Blanqui, a member of the Republican party; the second, documents touching the Spanish marriages. The documents relating to the case of M. Libri, previously published, belong to the same series.

The most important revelation is a very long letter, dated the 14th September, 1846, by King Louis Philippe to his daughter the Queen of the Belgians; in his own hand, and covered with erasures and corrections. It is virtually a reply to a letter that Queen Amélie had received from Queen Victoria; of which Louis Philippe says, "I am inclined to believe that our good little Queen was as sorry to write such a letter as I was to receive it."

But she now only sees things through the spectacles of Lord Palmerston, and those spectacles distort and disfigure them too often. This is quite natural. The great difference between the spectacles of the excellent Aberdeen and those of Lord Palmerston proceeds from the difference of their dispositions. Lord Aberdeen wished to be well with his friends: Lord Palmerston, I fear, wishes to quarrel with them. This is, my dear Louise, that which caused my alarm respecting the maintenance of our cordial understanding when Lord Palmerston resumed the direction of the Foreign Office. Our good Queen Victoria sought to dispel those alarms, and assured me that there would only be a change of men. But my old experience induced me to apprehend that, through the influence of the disposition of Lord Palmerston, much more perhaps than his intentions, the political system of England would undergo a modification, gradual or sudden; and, unfortunately, the affairs of Spain have afforded an opportunity.

In the first moment that followed the perusal of the letter of Queen Victoria, I was tempted to write to her directly; and I even began a letter to appeal to her heart and recollections, and demand to be judged by her equitably, and, above all, more affectionately; but the fear of embarrassing her stopped me; and I prefer writing to you, to whom I can say everything, to give you all the explanations necessary to "replace the things in their true light."

He proceeds with an immensely long explanation, how he had uniformly refused thrones for his sons—Greece, Belgium, and Portugal; how he did not wish either of his sons to marry the Queen of Spain; how "the military successes of all my sons" created a considerable demand for them in Spain, especially for Aumale, but he remained firm; how he concluded to limit the choice of candidates for Queen Isabella's hand to the descendants of Philip the Fifth, and Lord Aberdeen concurred; but how Lord Palmerston totally departed from that understanding, and introduced Prince Leopold of Coburg as the first candidate. Queen Christina had been worked upon by English agents to suggest that prince, and "Bulwer" was "severely reprimanded" by Lord Aberdeen for his share of it. As to Montpensier, it had been arranged with Lord Aberdeen that he should marry the Infanta Luisa after Queen Isabella should have had a child; but when Queen Christina found Lord Palmerston encouraging the Progressistas, she became alarmed, flew to Paris, and insisted on the simultaneous marriage of the Queen and Infanta with the Duke of Cadix and the Duke de Montpensier, to which Louis Philippe consented: "this," says he, "is my only deviation." "This family alliance suited me in every manner, and was equally agreeable to the Queen and all my family." But he emphatically disclaims all intention of interfering in the internal affairs of Spain, expressing an anxious desire for the tranquillity of that country, and for the continued "friendship and confidence" of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. One passage in this explanation must be given in the King's own words:—

In September 1845, when Lord Aberdeen spoke to me for the first time, at the Chateau d'Eu, of the marriage of Montpensier with the Infanta, Queen Isabella II., although fifteen years of age all but a month, was not marriageable; and I can assert with all sincerity that, as long as this state of the Queen's health continued, it would have been, even with Lord Aberdeen's observations, a complete obstacle to the marriage of the Duke of Montpensier with the Infanta her sister. But the Queen became marriageable in the course of the winter; and she being, according to the assurances that were given us, under the most favourable circumstances for the marriage state, nothing was left but to know whether the husband she might choose exhibited the best condition of virility. It seemed to me to be certain, from all the information, even of the most minute nature, taken upon this subject with regard to Don Francisco d'Assis, that he was in the required condition, and that conse-

quently there was every probability united for hoping that their marriage would not be without issue.

Several small notes interchanged about the same time between M. Guizot and the King, while they disclose no particular fact, illustrate the familiar terms on which the King and his Minister lived. The King begins one "My dear Minister," his usual form, and ends it, "Good night, my dear Minister." M. Guizot uses terms of profound respect, but makes his own appointments for interviews, and arranges everything with the confidence of a man that presumes the concurrence of another, whose plans he is working with successful devotion.

Certain notes by M. de Salvandy display the most abject servility on the part of that arrogant and self-sufficient personage; who is always "laying" something at his Majesty's "feet." One commences—

Sire, I have the honour to forward the [London] *Standard* to your Majesty. Sounder opinions could not be entertained. It is true they cannot be derived from better sources.

[The *Standard* disclaims the inference that it was retained for the French Government, or had used any "sources" but its own.]

In another letter, the intellectual Salvandy confounds planets and Legionary crosses, ambition and science, mathematics, geometry, and the lack of "correct opinions," in the most instructive way: observe how the independent Minister of Instruction busies himself to seduce young men of merit and ability—

I venture to make a request on the subject of M. Leverrier, the admirable discoverer of planets; whose heart melts with joy and gratitude for that officer's cross, which has produced the best effect with the public. Your Majesty has taught this young savant ambition. He aspires to the honour of being permitted to lay at the feet of your Majesty the expression of his gratitude and his overpowering sense of your favours. There are so few mathematicians or geometers who entertain such correct sentiments, that I entreat your Majesty to consent to see him, either in the morning or the evening—earlier or later. Your Majesty will have achieved a conquest truly worthy of you.

The other set of documents begins with what appears to be the examination of a person under arrest before the Minister of the Interior, in October 1839; subsequent papers appear to be reports by the same person, written in a much more spontaneous manner. The first is retrospective, and relates to the attempt of Barbès and others in May 1839; the remaining papers are contemporaneous, and disclose the names, organization, and plans of the Republican societies. At a meeting of one of the Paris clubs last week, M. Blanqui avowed that these documents were his, but he said he could give an explanation, and demanded certain newspapers for the purpose. A strong feeling of anger prevails against M. Blanqui; he had been *President of the Republican Society*.

M. Blanqui has since published a defence, which is more retaliatory than explanatory. At first sight it was deemed satisfactory, but the *Courrier Français* of Friday contains a letter from M. Durrien, which charges M. Blanqui with deliberate falsehood in that part of his defence which embodies a pretended proposition of M. Durrien for the overthrow of the Provisional Government. The principal fact being thus contradicted, the rest necessarily fell to the ground.

A PREDICAMENT.—The other day Mr. D., Lieutenant H., and the Commissioner, went out hog-hunting. This sport is always performed on horse-back, with long spears. The beaters soon turned out a magnificent boar. "A boar! a boar!" was the shout, and up galloped the Commissioner and plunged the spear into the animal; but in consequence of his horse swerving, he was unable to withdraw the weapon, and the boar ran off with it sticking into his back. Lieutenant H. now came up; the boar charged him, cut both the fore legs of his horse to the bone with his tusks, and tumbled horse and man over on the ground. In the meantime, the Commissioner had seized another spear from the syce, when the boar rushed at him. His horse swerved at the moment that he was making a thrust with his spear, and the poor Commissioner rolled over on the ground. Fortunately the boar was nearly exhausted, too much so to charge again; but he did what perhaps no boar ever did before—he seized the Commissioner by the coat tail as he lay on his stomach. Feeling the snout of the beast he at once expected to be cut, if not killed, by its tremendous tusks. He sprang upon his feet; the boar kept hold of his tail. The Commissioner faced about; he had neither pistols nor knife, so he commenced pummeling away at the boar's face with his fist. Now, imagine the scene—a man of his extraordinary size, with his coat tail held up by an enormous boar; the Commissioner himself turned half round, and having a regular boxing-match with the furious brute. D. came up as quickly as he could for laughing, and with one good thrust of his spear put an end to the fight. The charge of the boar is fearful; he cuts right and left with his tusks, and inflicts the most dreadful wounds.—*Acland's India*.

PRESENT TO MR. COBDEN.—A deputation from members of the commercial body, consisting of Messrs. W. Tilt, T. Whittard, C. R. Carter, and F. Molland, waited upon Mr. R. Cobden, this day, (Monday) at the Free Trade Club, to present him with a gold box (the produce of subscription) manufactured by Messrs. Elkington, Mason, and Co., of upwards of 100 guineas' value, and containing the following inscription inside the lid:—"Presented to Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., by a few members of the body of commercial travellers, as a testimonial of their esteem, and in grateful acknowledgment of his admirable and unwearied exertions in promoting the cause of Free-trade."—*Globe*.

IRELAND.

THE TRIALS FOR SEDITION.

DUBLIN, APRIL 15.—This being the first day of term, and also the day of initiatory proceedings against Messrs. S. O'Brien, Mitchell, and Meagher, the hall and court were unusually crowded. A large number of the idle congregated in the outside court and in the hall, who were not suffered to pass the temporary barrier, which was strongly guarded by police. Messrs. Mitchell and Meagher sat together in the side bar, while Mr. O'Brien took up a position beneath the crown solicitor, and spent the leisure hours in reading the *Nation*. All were of course eyed with much curiosity, and various comments passed on the observed of all observers. At twelve o'clock Judge Crampton, the senior judge, entered the court, and the city grand jury having been sworn, with Sir Edward Burrough as foreman, the charge was opened. It was not very long, but sharp and pointed to the offence. The jury retired, and returned at a quarter to three o'clock, when Sir Edward Burrough handed in the bills "found" against Mr. Mitchell. After having been formally arraigned, the Attorney-General rose and stated that the traversers would have four days to plead, and was entitled to a copy of the indictment, which was accordingly handed to him by the Clerk of the Crown. Mr. Mitchell received the portentous document in silence. The grand jury were then handed the bills against Messrs. O'Brien and Meagher. The foreman asked a postponement until Monday; but the Attorney-General interposed, and observed that the day was early, and no time should be unnecessarily lost. The jury withdrew, and returned again at half-past four with the bills found against the remaining traversers. The same proceedings then took place as in the case of Mr. Mitchell, and the court rose. All the traversers appeared by their solicitors, but each will conduct his own defence. In any legal difficulties which might arise they will have the advice of Messrs. Holmes, O'Hagan, and O'Loughlin.

The four-day rule does not include this day or to-morrow (Sunday), so that it will not expire until Thursday, and as the court will be up on that day until after the Easter holidays, the rule runs until the following Wednesday.

After leaving the court the traversers were received outside with a shout of welcome, and proceeded together to D'Olier-street. The trial, which will take place in the after-sittings of this term, will not be a trial at bar, but an ordinary trial conducted by Chief-justice Blackburne. The crown might have made special application to the court for a trial at bar, but not being considered of sufficient importance, the usual course will be adhered to.

The receipt of intelligence sent from London on Monday, announcing the quiet termination of the Chartist meeting, manifestly damped the exultation of the Confederate order on Wednesday.

The Roman Catholic priests have come forward at several meetings lately—in Derry, Limerick, Tipperary, and Galway—as abettors of the rebellious spirit. At Limerick, the Reverend Dr. O'Brien significantly suggested "the frightful conviction that allegiance and freedom may sometimes be incompatible."

A run on the Irish savings-banks has been commenced by the Repealers. A Cork paper states that a perfect panic has arisen from this cause. Within the last fortnight the trustees of the Cork Savings-bank have sold out £45,000 to meet withdrawn deposits. The defalcations in Tralee are stated by the *Southern Reporter* to amount to £30,000, which must be an exaggeration. The real deficiency is supposed to be about £10,000.

THE CONSTABULARY continue to pour in declarations of their perfect loyalty to the authorities, and of contravention to the rumour of a contrary nature. Declarations from the portions of the force stationed in Carlow county, Queen's county, and Longford county, are contained in the local journals of those districts respectively to-day. The latter declaration, it is added, bears the signature of every man in the force in that county.

THE TOTAL MILITARY FORCE NOW IN DUBLIN, including the artillery branch, is about 7,200. In several regiments in Dublin, the military preparations continue on the most extensive scale. The horses of the cavalry have attached to them an extra rein, composed of a curb-chain, steel, and capable of resisting the cutting-hook fastened at the back of the pikes now in course of manufacture. In the opinion of all military men this weapon is regarded as one likely to be extremely effective in a charge upon dragoons.

ARCHBISHOP MURRAY has written to the *Evening Post*, refusing a request made to him to withdraw his signature from the address of confidence to the Lord-Lieutenant.

The Repeal journals are diligent in collecting and parading signs of disaffection in the army.

It is stated that serious differences have arisen in the Committee of the Repeal Association, and it is rumoured that Mr. Maurice O'Connell and Mr. John O'Connell have intimated their intention to resign. —*Chronicle*.

Mr. Charles Towneley was returned for the borough of Sligo on Monday. At the close of the poll, the votes were—for Mr. Towneley, 133; for Mr. Somers, his opponent, 127.

PROGRESS OF TREASON.—The most remarkable feature in the *Nation*, of Saturday, is a letter addressed to Mr. Meagher "of the sword," by the parish priest of Borrisokane (the Rev. Mr. Birmingham), setting forth the "doctrine of Catholic resist-

ance." Mr. John Mitchell's paper abounds, as usual, with glowing panegyrics on the pike, the rifle, and the cold vitriol cure for her Majesty's troops. Mr. Mitchell has ceased his correspondence with the "Butcher-General," and has now taken the Prime Minister to task for the part Lord John has taken to repress treason by the Bill for the Security of the Crown. Open defiance is, of course, hurled at the measure, as a means of stifling public opinion. The *Cork Examiner* mentions the meeting of a rifle club at Clay Castle, at which over 2,000 persons were assembled. The *Nation* mentions, as a rumour, that Lord Shrewsbury has given in his adhesion to Repeal, and that his Lordship had a long interview with Lord John Russell on the subject in the course of the week. A Dr. O'Hanlon, in a letter addressed to the *Limerick Reporter*, backs both reports, stating that there is no doubt of their accuracy.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

The Queen held a Court and Privy Council, on Saturday afternoon, at Osborne. At the court the Right Rev. John B. Sumner, D.D., had an audience of the Queen, and did homage on being appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. Sir George Grey and the Bishop of Norwich, Clerk of the Closet, assisted at the ceremony. Dr. Hampden had an audience of her Majesty, and did homage on being appointed Bishop of Hereford. At the council the Archbishop of Canterbury was introduced, and was sworn of her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council. His Grace took his seat at the Board.

Lady John Russell was safely delivered of a son on Friday morning. Her Ladyship is going on well.

The Queen, Prince Albert, and their children, have passed the week quietly at Osborne.

PRINCE METTERNICH.—The arrival of this distinguished diplomatist is confidently expected within the next few days. Apartments have already been engaged for the Prince and his family at the Brunswick-hotel, Hanover-square.

Notice was issued at Windsor Castle, on Thursday, that the state apartments are closed to the public during works of excavation under the floors of some of the passages.

LOUIS PHILIPPE IN POVERTY.—The French correspondent of the *Patriot*, resident in London, states that he has received a letter from a friend of his, M. Vatout, who is also a "most familiar and confidential friend" of Louis Philippe, and is now residing with him at Claremont, in which M. Vatout says:—

A voluntary exile, I religiously fulfil my duty to the most unfortunate of princes, one who, after reigning during eighteen years over France, is now left in real poverty. Thank heaven, I have enough to live upon, very humbly indeed; but, with a few old friends, and the remembrance of some good deeds, I find I am the least to be pitied among so many unfortunate exiles.

Mr. J. Morris and Mr. H. J. Prescott have been re-elected Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England for the year ensuing.

SENTENCE COMMUTED.—The sentence of death passed by Mr. Baron Rolfe, at the late assizes, upon Calvert and Mellor, the two men who were convicted of the murder of Mr. Wood, of Fawcater, has been commuted by the Secretary of State to transportation of life. —*York Herald*.

EQUAL TAXATION LEAGUE.—Meetings have been held in various parts of London during the past week, with a view to the formation of district societies, to co-operate on the objects in view by sending a gentleman deputed from each society to a central one for the purpose of forming rules for the government and operation of the league, which, as its name imports, has been formed for the purpose of obtaining a more equal distribution of the public burdens.

THE "TOWN-HALL GUARD" is the title given to a portion of the constabulary force recently organized in Manchester. This body is regularly drilled, and is said to be already very expert in various military evolutions. It is intended to form these constables into "a permanent volunteer force," to consist of two companies, each of forty-eight rank and file, four captains, and eight lieutenants. Two senior captains will command the force, which will thus muster in all a total of 122. Another similar body is about to be enrolled under the title of "The Corporation Guard."

FATHER MATHEW will sail from Liverpool for New York on the 21st inst. The rev. gentleman goes in the new packet ship, "The New World."

MR. O'CONNOR'S LABOURERS.—"Monday week," says a correspondent of the *Gloucester Journal*, "the bricklayers employed on the Chartist estate at Snig's End, struck for an advance of wages; and Mr. O'Connell felt himself bound to remove from the works the disaffected and discontented, by immediate dismissal."

CASE OF ABDUCTION.—At Marylebone Police-office, on Wednesday, Mr. Thomas Buxton Baines, a surgeon of Thaxted, in Essex, was charged with the abduction of Marian Frances Jane Harvey, a girl under the age of sixteen, against the will of her father, the Reverend Thomas Harvey. Mr. Harvey, who is now residing at Bayswater, had recently been curate of Thaxted; there Mr. Baines had attended Miss Harvey professionally, became a general visitor of the family, and one day he eloped with her, after dinner. The couple were married at St. Margaret's, Westminster; the bridegroom making false statements about the lady's age, and the consent of her parents. On the 4th, Mr. Harvey, accompanied by

Inspector Tedman, forcibly recovered his daughter. Mr. Harvey had never given any sanction to his daughter's marriage—he would rather have "seen her in her grave" than that she should have acted as she did. Mrs. Harvey, however, seems to have been cognizant of Mr. Baines's "courting" her daughter: she allowed the young lady's portrait to be taken for that gentleman. After legal arguments by the counsel employed, Mr. Broughton held the accused to bail—£1,000 in all—to meet the charge at the sessions.

It is a singular fact that both the police superintendent who conducted Mr. F. O'Connor to Mr. Mayne, the police commissioner, on Monday week, and Mr. O'C. himself, had their pockets picked in the crowd.

PEACE CONVENTION IN PARIS.—We find by a letter, sent to a member of this society in this city, and which letter bears the signature of Elihu Burritt, that the National Committee of League of Universal Brotherhood propose to ascertain how many members of the association from different parts of this kingdom would be willing to form a deputation to Paris, for the purpose of holding a series of meetings in that metropolis, to discuss with its citizens and residents from various continental countries the immediate practicability of the principles of peace; also to consider with them some practical plan for effecting the simultaneous disarmament of nations, thus to relieve the industry and property of Christendom from the burthen of the present military expenditure. The deputation, it is proposed, should leave London on Tuesday, May 30, and return on the following Saturday. —*Oxford Chronicle*.

EMIGRATION FROM SCOTLAND.—The really depressed state of the country just now is clearly shown from the great number of people who are leaving it. At all the ports on the Clyde the vessels going out to the United States and Canada are carrying very full complements of passengers, while the vessels to Australia, on Government account, could easily get three or four times their complement. A very large portion of the passengers for Canada and the States are the wives, parents, and other relations of persons who had previously gone out, and who have earned the means of taking out those connexions who are dear to them from the universal misery that prevails here. If it were in the power of the manufacturing population to emigrate to America by any means at this time, we are sure that all the ships in the British navy would soon get ample cargoes, if they were bound for the western shores of the Atlantic.

THE POST-OFFICE SUPERSEDED.—The Postmaster-General, Colonel Maberly, and Mr. Rowland Hill, may set their houses in order and prepare to evacuate St. Martin's-le-Grand; for they will soon have to exclaim with Othello, "Our occupation's gone!" It seems, indeed, a hard case, after so much labour to improve the postal communications of the country, and after steam has done its utmost to hasten the mail-bags to all parts of the kingdom, that the well-planned arrangements and excellent machinery should come to nought: but even they must submit to fate and scientific invention. Not many months have passed since we noticed Mr. Bain's ingenious Marking Electric Telegraph, by means of which symbols representing letters of the alphabet are marked on paper by electricity; and we predicted that means would soon be found of transmitting along the telegraph-wires exact copies of written communications. What we then deemed probable has now been realized. We have this week seen a specimen of writing by the Copying Telegraph, invented by Mr. F. C. Bakewell, wherein words traced from the original were legibly copied on paper by an instrument that had no connexion with the one to which the transmitted message was applied excepting by the usual wires from the voltaic battery. The letters traced on the paper appear of a pale colour, on a dark ground formed by numerous lines drawn close together. The communications thus traced, we understand, may be transmitted at the rate of 500 letters of the alphabet per minute of ordinary writing; and were short-hand symbols employed, the rapidity of transmission would be quadrupled. When this means of correspondence is in operation, instead of dropping a letter into the post-office box and waiting days for an answer, we may apply it directly to the Copying Telegraph, have it copied at the distant town in a minute or less, and receive a reply in our correspondent's handwriting almost as soon as the ink is dry with which it was penned. There are various means, too, for preserving the secrecy of correspondence: the most curious of which is, that the writing may be rendered nearly invisible in all parts but the direction until its delivery to the person for whom it is designed. The operations of the Copying Telegraph are not limited to the tracing of written characters. Letterpress printing may be copied with even greater rapidity than writing, and fac-simile copies of the morning papers may thus be transmitted to Liverpool and Manchester long before the papers themselves are delivered to their readers in London. The means by which these astonishing effects are produced we are not at present permitted to state, as the invention is not yet protected; but we are assured that the method is simple, and that the mechanism is neither costly nor likely to get out of order. It is, indeed, one of the peculiar features of the Copying Telegraph that it cannot commit errors, because the communications it transmits are fac-similes of the original writing. —*Spectator*.

LEICESTER.—On Monday evening a large public meeting was held in the Amphitheatre, Leicester, for the purpose of congratulating Mr. Gardner, one of the M.P.'s for that borough, upon the honest manner in which he has given utterance to his principles in the House of Commons. Mr. Manning presided.

BAPTIST TRACT SOCIETY, INSTITUTED 1841.
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held on **THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 27, 1848, at TRINITY CHAPEL, TRINITY-STREET, SOUTH-WARK.** The Chair to be taken at Half-past SIX o'clock, by **ROBERT LUSH, Esq.**
 A Report for the last year will be read, Officers appointed, and Addresses delivered by several Ministers and Gentlemen.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, April 19, Two o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

In the House of Lords last night, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE stated, in answer to a question from Lord BRAMFLEET, that many persons who had been found at Dublin engaged in firing at a mark for the purpose of military training had been arrested.

The Election Recognizances Bill then passed through committee after a warm altercation between Lord MONTAGUE and Lord BROUGHAM.

The Alien Bill was read a third time and passed. Their lordships then adjourned.

The House of Commons met yesterday at twelve o'clock.

Sir G. GREY moved the third reading of the Crown and Government Security Bill. Mr. HUME repeated his objections to the measure, and moved that it be read a third time that day six months. Sir DE L. EVANS objected to certain portions of the bill, but could not concur in an indiscriminate censure of it. A lengthy debate ensued, in the course of which Sir R. PEEL gave his most cordial support to the measure, on the ground that he thought it but right that men who had not the dignity of traitors should not be allowed to cover themselves by the illusion that they were such. Lord J. RUSSELL concluded a speech in defence of the course taken by the Government in the introduction of the bill, and in having limited the operation of what is termed the gagging clause to two years, by stating that, for his own part, he should be ready, or if he were not, then let others bring forward those motions which might tend, as they believed, to the advantage of the sister kingdom. Any proposition supported by the great body of Irish members, as calculated to improve the situation of their country with regard to the relations of landlord and tenant, or in respect to social or political grievances, he should be ready to listen to. But whether in discussion, if discussion they chose; in debate, if debate they chose; by argument, or in other ways by exciting the people to arms, and by urging them to take means of force; by force, if force were necessary, as long as he had breath or life in him, he should oppose the repeal of the legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland.—On a division, the third reading was carried by a majority of 255; the numbers, 295 to 40; and after a protest from Mr. HUME as regarded the words "by open and advised speaking," the bill passed amid loud cheers from both sides of the House.

The morning sitting was then adjourned. The evening sitting was almost exclusively occupied in a discussion respecting the issuing of a new writ for the borough of Horsham. Mr. STAFFORD moved the issue of the writ, but being opposed by Lord J. RUSSELL, Lord LINCOLN, and many other gentlemen from all sides of the House, he ultimately consented to withdraw his motion.

Mr. BOUVIER moved for, and obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable religious congregations to obtain sites for churches in Scotland. The bill was afterwards brought in and read a first time.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that at a meeting of the House this day he should move that it adjourn to Saturday, and that he should also move that after the recess, orders of the day should take precedence of notices of motion on Thursdays.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.—In view of the coming elections, a Protestant democratic committee has been formed at Paris, by an assembly principally composed of pastors, elders, and deacons, of the two Protestant communities. This committee is formed of four members of the Reformed and three of the Lutheran Church. Their candidates are the pastors Coquerel and Verney, who have consented to be put in nomination. The former alone has published an exposition of his principles, in which he has omitted all reference to his opinions on the subject of the salary of ministers of religion by the State. M. Andrew Boissier, pastor at Mures, has put himself forward to represent the department of the Ariège in the National Assembly. The journal *L'Ariègeois* publishes his declaration of principles, from which we extract the following:—"Above all," says he, "I am a Christian, not only by birth, by baptism, by virtue of some exterior practices, as too many are, but by an enlightened conviction which can render an account of itself, and by a faith, hearty, profound, and firm. I seat myself at the feet of Jesus. . . . But if I am a Christian, I do not believe that the State can be so, and I deny its right to meddle with the Church. Church and State are things belonging to different spheres. Christianity—or to generalize yet more, religion—should at all times be left to its spiritual nature, and the voluntary acceptance of each individual conscience, to which voluntariness it owes its efficacy and high value. The State ought never to interfere either to suppress it or to facilitate its extension. Whenever it does so interfere, and more particularly when it assumes the office of protector of the Church, it does so to the great detriment of the happy influence that religion exercises on society, when it is left to depend upon its own resources. The Church demands from the State nought but liberty. I oppose, therefore, all interference of the State in the affairs of the Church not less energetically than I do

all intervention by the Church in the affairs of the State. I wish that religious liberty may become a reality; and I disapprove of all endowments, all payment of ministers by the State, because it is iniquitous to constrain one citizen to pay for the maintenance or the propagation of a mode of worship he uses not, and because such a salary constitutes an outrage to the faith, and a monstrous privilege in favour of opinions thus officially authorised." *Le Sémur* says, on the subject of the increasing opposition to the payment of ministers, "We are assured that this opinion is propagating itself among the Catholic clergy."—*La Réformation*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM PARIS. (By Electric Telegraph.)—Paris was thrown into great alarm yesterday by the beating of the *rappel*. The whole of the Guard turned out, and continued patrolling and marching, or in position, until 10 o'clock, when they were dismissed. The cause of the *alerte* was information received by the Government that the Hôtel de Ville, the Treasury, and the Bank, were to be attacked by the Communists on Monday night. A partial attempt on the Hôtel de Ville was said to have been made. Two guard-houses were attacked, but the assailants were beaten off. An attempt to induce the workmen on the Strasburg Railroad to join them was made by the Communists, but failed. MM. Blanqui and Cabet are said to have been arrested.

The following indicates the sentiments entertained in the provinces respecting the Minister of the Interior. The *Perigord* of the Dordogne says:—"A striking fact has just occurred at Nontron. M. Charles Montagut, the Government commissary, being at a banquet which was offered to him by the inhabitants, proposed as a toast the health of M. Ledru Rollin. The entire assembly replied with the cry of 'Vive Lamartine!'"

THE BOULOGNE AND AMIENS RAILWAY.—The railway was opened through to Boulogne on Monday, and at half-past eleven a train of five carriages left with the Directors of the South-Eastern Company and several passengers for Paris.

LOMBARDY.—King Charles Albert has established his headquarters at Volta, on the right bank of the Mincio, and the operations against Peschiera had commenced.

The Provisional Government of Lombardy has expelled the Jesuits. Fifteen convents of that society in Lombardy have been closed, and their entire property sequestrated.

DONIZETTI, the celebrated composer, died at Bergamo, on the 8th inst.

SPAIN.—In Madrid, numerous arrests continued to be made, but tranquillity was not disturbed.

The reported concentration of Russian troops on the German frontier is one of the many rumours of the day without foundation. All that Russia has done since the movements in Germany has been to establish a stricter examination of merchandise and travellers' passports crossing the borders.

PRUSSIA.—It is insisted on, that one consequence of the days of March must be the fall of the military system. On this question the hopeful expect much from the future Assembly.—*Times Correspondent*.

DENMARK AND SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.—The Hamburg steamer, arrived yesterday at Hull, brings the following:—

RENSBURG, April 14.

A skirmish has taken place near Eckenforde, in which the Danes were defeated, with a loss of forty prisoners. The Danish army of 8,000 advanced yesterday, and took possession of Dännebirch, near Schleswig.

MILAN.—We hear by a private letter from Milan, that M. Mazzini had arrived in that city, and had met with a most enthusiastic reception from all parties. He had waited upon the Provisional Government by request, and had a long conversation on the present state of affairs. He afterwards addressed a great crowd which had collected with a band of music in front of the Government house, from a window. His reception shows that the monarchical feeling in Milan is not so strong as it has been represented to be. On the 9th inst., 2,000 Italian soldiers in the service of Austria, having been ordered at Cremona to fire on the people, refused to do so, and caused their Austrian officers to fly; they have adopted the Liberal flag, and come to Milan, passing through the streets surrounded by people crying 'Viva l'Italia!'

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

BIRMINGHAM, TUESDAY MORNING.—A preliminary meeting of the middle classes, convened by circular, to meet Mr. Vincent, was held last night, in Corbett's Temperance Hotel. About seventy were present, including Alderman Weston, Alderman Palmer, Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Collins, Councillor Sturge, and Joseph Sturge, Esq. George Goodrick, Esq., occupied the chair. Mr. Vincent addressed the meeting. While the friends of universal suffrage stood firm, he hoped that no obstacle would be thrown in the way of any who did not go the same length. He thought it of the highest importance that all classes should be put in motion for electoral reform. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That Mr. Henry Vincent be respectfully requested to deliver an address to the middle classes, in the Town-hall, on Monday morning next, at ten o'clock, on their duties and responsibilities at this crisis. Tickets will be issued to all the electors. Mr. Vincent will come over from Manchester for the purpose, and return for another meeting at Manchester the same evening. It is important also to notice, that last night another meeting of the friends of Mr. Dawson was held, in another place. Mr. Dawson is universally popular here, and it is believed he will help to head a great movement.

The Independent, Baptist, and Wesleyan ministers of Ripley and Riddys, Derbyshire, have adopted memorials to Lord John Russell, and to the real representatives of the people in Parliament, pointing out the dissatisfied state of the country, and the necessity of a radical change in the Government. To the former they say:—

As ministers of religion, anxious for the conservation of order, union, and peace, we take this occasion of begging and entreating you, as Premier, to consult the public good, by some large and comprehensive measure of reform, worthy of a Liberal Government, and in unison with the enlightened and advancing spirit of the age.

We are sorry that we cannot find room in our present number for both memorials.

GLASGOW.—MONDAY EVENING.—Another holiday. The city has been in a state of qualified excitement all day. "A great demonstration" for the Charter and Repeal took place at three o'clock, on the public green. The day being very favourable—very fine—a great many assembled; the computations are of course various—say forty thousand. The "fraternization" between the Chartists and Repealers seemed to be most cordial. There were several standards mounted "*d la Française*," emblematic, viz., a cap of liberty, an eagle, a double axe, &c. The speeches were emphatic and telling; apart from the ostensible object, the whole proceedings were respectably conducted. There is something significant in this union of parties, who have so long been apparently irreconcilable. The new association will issue its first address on Thursday next. The public will respond to it right earnestly, and think.

HALIFAX.—A correspondent writes:—

I have pleasure in informing you that an effort is about to be made in Halifax, to unite the middle and working classes on the great political question of the day, viz. "The Extension of the Franchise." Last week, Messrs. F. Crossley, S. Swindel, and Henry Marten waited upon the constables with a requisition numerous and respectfully signed, requesting them to call a meeting of the inhabitants to express an opinion that reform is needed in our financial and representative systems. The constables refused. Last night, a meeting of the members of the National Alliance, (with whom the requisition originated) was held, when it was agreed to call a meeting as soon as arrangements could be made. It appears to be just the time for a movement to take place. The sober, thinking portion of the working men, will surely, before long, find it out that their present leaders can do nothing for them.

SPECIAL CONSTABLES.—A correspondent, in whose suggestion we cordially concur, points out the desirableness of the persons who recently acted as special constables, sending a memorial to Lord John Russell, informing him that while they have been most ready to maintain order, he is not to mistake this loyal feeling for approbation of the proceedings of Government, but that they are anxious to see the legislation adopt sweeping measures of reform.

IRELAND.—ARRESTS.—Thirteen young men were arrested in Dublin on Sunday night, and committed for trial, for drilling, training, and exercising to arms.—Contrary to general expectation, there was no unusual display in Conciliation-hall on Monday. The omission of "O'Connell's memory" from the list of toasts at Saturday's soirée of the members of the Confederation, had angered the members for Limerick and Tralee, which, combined with the fraternization of moral and physical force, and the perils of falling within the Convention Act through the council of three hundred, has, it is said, estranged the real Old Irelanders, and must inevitably lead to the secession of the O'Connells.

PRAYER FOR PUBLIC PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY.—Last night's *Gazette* contains an edict, dated Osborne House, April 15, in which her Majesty directs public prayers for the preservation of peace and tranquillity to be put up in all churches and chapels on Sunday, the 21st instant.

BEXLEY ELECTION.—The numbers at a quarter past one o'clock yesterday were:—
 Mandeville (Tory) 148
 Lyttelton (Whig) 122

Majority for Mandeville 26
 The majority is too great to admit of its being over-come at this late hour.

SHEFFIELD.—The movement amongst the electors calling upon Messrs. Ward and Parker to resign continues, and requisitions lie for signature in various parts of the town. Very great dissatisfaction prevails against the present members.

THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE.—Our readers will be gratified to learn, that the committee who have called the Conference in London for the 3rd of May, for the purpose of forming a People's League of the middle and working classes, in favour of all the principles of just and equal representation, are receiving the most encouraging promises of support from all parts of the country. At their meeting last evening, a great number of letters were read from influential persons, chiefly electors, promising to attend, and to give the League every support in their power.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

Of foreign Wheat and Oats we have good supplies this week, whilst of English the quantity is again very limited. From the continuance of wet weather we have a firmer feeling on the part of holders of Wheat, who are demanding higher rates than on Monday last; but the business transacting is very limited. Other articles without variation.

The arrivals this week are—Wheat, English 2,530, foreign 12,490 qrs.; Barley, English 740, foreign 4,570 qrs.; Oats, English 960, Irish 3,490, foreign 12,360 qrs.; Flour, English 2,450 sacks.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Alfred Bowser." Next week.

Several other communications are excluded for want of room.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1848.

SUMMARY.

Vive la République! Vive l'ordre! Vive Lamartine! It has become the fashion with influential journalists on the hither side of the Dover Straits, whilst magnifying all the apprehensions which a prolific fancy can conjure up to cast a gloom over the prospects of France, to conclude with the seemingly charitable wish, that the grand experiment now being tried by a neighbouring nation may ultimately prove successful, and that the vessel of State may outride the storm. The wish, whether sincere or hypocritical, is likely to be realized. The really moderate and able party in the Provisional Government, headed by Lamartine, have just obtained a signal triumph over the foes of order. For some days past it was quite clear that a crisis was approaching; and Sunday last was looked forward to with great alarm and gloomy forebodings by considerable numbers on both sides the Channel. A demonstration was announced, as agreed upon by the more violent of the clubs and the workmen, ostensibly for the purpose of nominating fourteen staff officers of the National Guard, selected from among the working classes, and intended to be imposed as supplementary to those already named. The real object of the demonstration, however, was to overawe the Government, and to place Communism in a position of ascendancy. The National Guard, consequently, were called out, and mustered to the number of some 200,000. Amongst these the *Garde Mobile*, called into existence by the Provisional Government, were observed to be the most zealous in support of order. They were harangued by M. Lamartine from the top of the steps in front of the Hôtel de Ville, and they replied with enthusiasm in the expressions with which we have commenced this Summary. The would-be disturbers of the peace were cowed. Society in Paris was re-assured. Joy beamed in every countenance, for the reign of order was confirmed. Lamartine is firmly seated. His power is now established; and there is little doubt that he will hand over the Republic to the National Assembly as a consolidated reality. So much for all the sinister vaticinations put forth by our oligarchy, through the medium of the daily press!

Affairs in Italy are not quite so cheerful as might be wished, but, in a political sense, are far from discouraging. A portion of the Sardinian and Austrian troops have met, in which victory declared itself in favour of the former. The loss of life was great, and above 2,000 prisoners remained in the hands of the Italian army. Whether Radetsky will be able to hold his ground must depend very much upon the extent to which the Government of Vienna can supply him with reinforcements. Present appearances indicate that he will receive but little material aid from that quarter, and that the best thing he can do will be to secure for himself and his army an honourable retreat. This done, the greatest difficulty will yet remain. Charles Albert, it is obvious, would fain place himself at the head of Lombardy, and constitute a northern Italian kingdom. This the inhabitants of that district will prevent, if possible. Their aspirations are mainly Republican, but a Republic in Lombardy could not long co-exist with a monarchy in Sardinia. Which is to give way? The part which the King now takes in the expulsion of the Austrians is probably intended to anticipate the decision of that question. All this is clearly foreseen, and, at present, tacitly connived at. But matters may be expected to assume a very different aspect when the common enemy has been driven off the ground.

The Danes have been prompt and energetic in support of their claims upon the Duchy of Schleswig. They, too, taking the revolted at unawares, have achieved a victory, not without considerable bloodshed, which few people regard with horror,

save when it is perpetrated by what is called "the mob." The grand object sought to be attained by the bloody arbitrement of the sword in this instance, is one which concerns, not the well-being of a people, but merely the dynastic right of a throne. For such a purpose myriads may be led on to death without eliciting a simple cry of reprobation. When the rights of an oppressed people are concerned a hundred deaths will provoke a shout of horror from all parties. There must be something unsound in our mode of estimating human conduct, or this astounding anomaly could not possibly exist.

The Germans are working out, with uncommon determination of purpose, and with the calmness which becomes an intelligent people, their political freedom. King Frederick William seems to be of small account in their eyes. He wears the crown, but he sways not the sceptre. Thus in deference to the Provisional Diet at Frankfort, he has been compelled to rescind the election of federal representatives nominated by his own Diet, and to consent that they should be elected by the whole people. Germany will probably possess institutions second to none in Europe for freedom and stability.

Coming now to our own domestic affairs, Parliamentary proceedings claim our first attention. In the House of Commons they range themselves under two topics—the Chartist petition and the Crown and the Government Security Bill.

Our readers are probably aware, from the reports of the daily papers, that the Chartist petition, through the ridiculous misrepresentation of Mr. Feargus O'Connor and some of his subordinates, has fallen into disrepute. The number of signatures is ascertained by the Committee of Petitions to be not 5,600,000, as stated by the member for Nottingham, but less than 2,000,000. Of these many sheets are written in the same handwriting; several signatures, such as that of the Duke of Wellington and Colonel Sibthorp, are manifest forgeries; some are names which no human being ever bore; and here and there occur the outpourings of obscenity and blasphemy. Now, it is quite obvious that very much of this is plainly attributable to the enemies of popular representation. None but men wishing to bring the petition into discredit would have disfigured it by such signatures as many of those which have been found. Considering the mode in which the petition was got up, such things are scarcely to be wondered at; and, probably, if other documents of a like nature were subjected to a similar scrutiny, they would exhibit a full proportion of the same blemishes. After every deduction has been made, it is clear that the *bona fide* signatures affixed to the Chartist petition are sufficiently numerous to entitle it to the respectful consideration of Parliament. Why Mr. O'Connor should have abandoned his intention of calling the notice of the House to the subject-matter of the petition on Friday night is a mystery to us. His own vanity seems to have been wounded by the exposure made of the gross exaggerations in which he has indulged, and in deserting it he abandoned a fine opportunity, not likely to occur again for some time, of enforcing the people's rights upon a reluctant aristocracy. For an account of the collision between Mr. Cripps and himself, which happily ended, as all parliamentary squabbles in these days end—in smoke, we must refer our readers to our columns of Parliamentary intelligence.

The House of Commons has been chiefly occupied upon the Crown and Government Security Bill, the third reading of which was yesterday carried by a majority of 255, amid loud cheers. In common with the Radical minority in the House, we regard the bill as a specimen of retrogressive policy, as calculated to foster the growth of secret societies, and as needed only by a government determined to withhold justice from the people. We confess, however, that we cannot interpret the obnoxious clause as many honourable members seem to have done. We read it in this light. It affixes a penalty to "open and advised speaking," not when that speaking is directed to the deposing of her Majesty, the overthrow of her Government, or the intimidation of Parliament, but when it is employed to compass those ends by the levying of war and the organization of physical force. It will reach such men as Mitchell of Dublin, or Reynolds of Liverpool, who richly deserve punishment for their atrocious efforts to subvert social order. But it will not prevent the fair or free discussion, either by the press or in public meetings, of any political topic whatever. The energetic minority who have opposed the progress of this bill have succeeded in obtaining amendments of several of its provisions, and have proved to the world how much a small but determined party, backed by public opinion, can effect, even in our corrupt Legislature, towards frustrating the oppressive intentions of an overwhelming majority. They have fought most gallantly; and, if not wholly successful, they have achieved a partial victory, for which they deserve the lasting gratitude of the nation.

The Lords have also been busy upon a measure of repression. An Alien Bill has been introduced

into that House, with a view to arm the Government with power to remove, if necessary, suspected foreigners. How difficult and harassing is the work of government, when determined to resist the just demands of the people! It has but to do right, and all these measures of coercion and precaution would be utterly unnecessary. Resolved to persist in wrong, it creates foes in all quarters, and puts into every hand a weapon against its own stability. When will rulers discover the secret of real power?

It will be seen, from the intelligence given elsewhere, that the movement amongst the middle classes, in favour of a thorough reform of our representative system, is progressing most auspiciously, and promises to ripen into a powerful agitation. The time is peculiarly auspicious for showing sympathy with the just demands of the working classes. Those whom they have been wont to regard as their leaders have seriously damaged their cause, and awakened well-founded mistrust. By the display of a generous confidence and a disregard of prejudice on the one side, and an abatement of unreasonable demands on the other, there is good ground for hoping that, ere long, a cordial union may be established between those who are equally suffering from the supremacy of a dominant oligarchy. It would be preposterous to look for any radical change of the present system from either Whigs or Tories. That can only be settled out of doors; and the Premier's declaration should be an additional stimulus to increased activity on the part of those who desire to see the question of popular representation finally settled.

LUMINOUS NEBULOSITY.

THE planet which is to rule our destiny has not yet made its appearance. Society, at this moment, in regard to the coming reform movement, is in the nebulous state. Every particle is more or less luminous; but the floating mass of which each is a constituent part is yet indistinct and shapeless. There is a visible tendency towards one common centre, but not yet sufficiently commanding to overbear the subsidiary influences which collect around them sections of the community. The conviction is all but universal that the separate classes of the people must unite—the disposition to do so is general; but, hitherto, no fusion has taken place. All men worth regarding are now anxious for an amended plan of Parliamentary representation. The *Times* has declared for it. Gentlemen of known Conservative opinions admit its necessity. The middle classes generally are in its favour, and the operatives, to a man, are resolved upon obtaining it. Thus far all point in the same direction. Here, however, for the present, active concurrence ends. Here a little section declares for a new schedule A, and an extinction of the old freemen. There a knot hang together for the municipal basis. An educational suffrage is the hobby of some—household suffrage secures the adhesion of others. A large party demand that the franchise shall be recognised as the universal right of citizenship; and not by any means a small one have determined to take nothing less than the People's Charter, name and all. Out of this seeming chaos, what is the system that must ultimately be evolved? Final consolidation at some point there will certainly be. What will be that point? What, all things considered, should it be? The question is well worth consideration, and to a dispassionate discussion of it we propose to devote an article or two.

The elements, we imagine, the concurrence of which, sooner or later, will create the basis of the future reform movement, are obvious justice, energy of will, and strength of numbers. Neither of these, perhaps, will separately and of itself suffice to determine the precise object of a national organization—but their combination will prove paramount over every other influence which can be brought to bear upon the public mind.

It appears to us quite clear that any movement to be triumphant must embody a *right* rather than a compromise. Indeed, we can hardly conceive of an attempt more certainly marked out for ignoble failure than one which offers a mere political expedient. The day for any such effort is gone by. The Anti-corn-law League succeeded in schooling the nation into enthusiastic reliance upon justice as a principle, and comparative distaste for political chaffering. The English mind is swayed more powerfully by moral than by utilitarian considerations. A pungent address to the conscience tells with tenfold more weight than an appeal to passing interests. To rouse the middle classes into earnest action—to overcome their natural *vis inertia*—to inspire them with persevering zeal—to conduct them to the heights of victory—you must set before them an end towards which justice will impel them, and which may be fairly and obviously identified with Christianity. Political men are greatly apt to mistake here. They count heads too soon. They measure present bulk, instead of estimating capacity of growth. Size rather than vitality attracts their choice. They are wrong—wrong even on the score of expediency. Falling

short of a sound principle, although it may be but by the veriest trifle, they are compelled to conduct all their operations from an essentially weak and insecure base. The artillery of moral logic becomes useless to them. The ardour which sense of rightness might light up in the breasts of their own troops fails them. They wonder at their own want of success, seemingly blind to the fact that it is attributable solely to their indiscreet choice of ground for the fight. One step further might put them in a strong position—one step short leaves them exposed to a flanking fire from two hostile parties. To have right on our side, and to be on the side of it because it is right, is the first and most essential condition of political strength in these days of universal unrest.

Energy of will, we take to be the second element which will go to determine the ultimate scope of the coming movement for representative reform. The "don't much care class" will certainly fail to set the impress of their opinions upon it. Estimable and amiable men that class may unquestionably comprehend—but they are also men who, whatever their influence of station, will never be trusted with the helm in the gale which is already brewing. The timidity which now holds them off from bold measures, will hereafter drive them to take part with the resolute. They will follow in the wake of any movement which promises success. Now, as it is not difficult to indicate the measure of franchise which embodies right, so it is easy to show that indomitable resolution exists in alliance with it, and with it alone. Even amongst the middle classes, the really earnest men—they who have looked, and will continue ready to look obliquely in the face—they who move in obedience to the impelling force of conscience—who are the most prepared for self-sacrifice, and the least likely to surrender their convictions, are those who aim to base the suffrage upon manhood, not upon its accidents. As a matter of principle rather than of policy they have espoused the doctrine of civil equality, and their purposes are consequently fixed and unalterable. The real life of the reform party resides in them. Such energy of will as the class can exhibit belongs to them. Whilst the term indifference may best describe the feeling with which others regard the several projects of amended representation before the world, their attitude is one of positivity. If we pass on from them to the working men, we shall find this characteristic more fully developed. Where, and in connexion with what doctrines, do we discover the *soul* of the operative class—their affection, their determination, their energy? Not, we may safely say, on the side of compromise—of change, a few degrees more or less removed from the existing plan—but in alliance with what they regard as complete and final justice—the endowment of man, as man, with all the rights of citizenship.

Lastly, numbers will, of course, operate in some measure, to determine the ultimate shape of the new movement. They are formidable as an influence when alone—they prove all but irresistible when allied with right and resolution. Here, again, there can be no mistake. Poll the kingdom through, and the vast majority would show in favour of universal suffrage, in preference to any more limited basis. We are thus conducted to the conclusion that this doctrine, like Aaron's rod, is destined to swallow up all others. It will probably be by this lever, that we shall overturn oligarchic ascendancy. Shorter ones may be tried for a season—but, in our sober judgment, without any great result. The clear planet into which the luminous nebulosity of the political hemisphere will finally condense—the planet which will away the future destinies of this empire—is Parliamentary representation based upon UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER AND THE CHARTISTS.

It is the fate of every great principle, in the infancy of its development, not only to suffer much contumely and injurious misconstruction from men who are too indolent to investigate it, or who are interested in opposing its progress, but also to contract great odium from the injudicious management or culpable misconduct of those who call themselves its adherents. A truth rises upon the world, like a newly-discovered planet, and men gaze at it with wonder and astonishment. Unlike the star, however, discovered by the astronomer, which serves only to illustrate more clearly the beautiful consistency of arrangement and the overwhelming grandeur of the material universe, the spiritual luminary sheds its bright beams on opposing systems, darkened by centuries of error, and guarded by the deeply-seated prejudices and bigotry of men. Like the visit of the God of truth to the world which he had made, it comes clad in benevolence and teeming with good-will to man; and the cry is, "Away with it from the earth! Crucify it! Crucify it!" Slowly, however, and gradually it gains ground—it arrests the attention of the world—converts become numerous, and then comes the struggle. The poorer members of society are its first adherents; and long must they

expound it, and amidst much error must it combat, ere in its inevitable course it has swept away the opposing elements of wealth and power, of prejudice and selfishness.

It must have been obvious to every observant man, that in the recent demonstration of the so-called Chartists, and in the hostility with which that demonstration was assailed, the great principles contained in the People's Charter have been overlooked, and the just demands of a defrauded class have been confounded with the boisterous defiance of a few excited and injudicious mob-orators. There cannot be a doubt that a large proportion of those peaceful citizens who became special constables, and armed themselves with truncheons instead of ledgers for the maintenance of order, were they requested to use their influence against the passing into law of the six points of the Charter, would refuse to hold up a finger against it. Neither can there be a doubt that the majority of those who met on Kennington-common would have shrunk from the use of physical force, even if success had been more than probable. The excitement of the times, the astounding events which have taken place on the Continent, and the uncertainty of the future, have all conspired to render the more opulent classes in this country extremely jealous of violent demonstrations; and there is nothing on earth more certain, than that any appeal to physical force by the Chartists would now be the way to alienate thousands of intelligent and respectable men from their cause.

With respect to the judgment which has been too hastily formed by many on the merits of the Charter, misled by the violent language of some of its supporters, we must take leave to assert, that of all the most unfair, as well as the most ignorant methods of arriving at a conclusion, this is the worst. Let us apply it to any other subject. Take, for instance, Christianity; glance over its history page by page, and see if there is a single age, or a single year, during the eighteen hundred years of its existence in the world, when its professors can be pointed at as the true exponents of Christian doctrine, or the proper examples of Christian practice. Nay, read the history of every sect, or investigate the character of any one church, and you will fail to find a true exemplification of Christianity; and yet who will deny the amazing and beneficent moral revolution Christianity has effected, and is still effecting? Take, again, the Reformation in England, and consider the character of its chief promoters. Begin with Henry VIII., whose very name is putrid, and whose life, from beginning to end, was a scene of infernal malignity, unredeemed by a single virtue; go on with Elizabeth, whose reign, splendid in a political point of view, was utterly disgraceful and intolerant in a religious sense. Trace the history of the Reformation throughout, and there is no want of charity in asserting, that the men who, like Ridley and Latimer, gave themselves truly and conscientiously to the work, are the exception, and that, generally speaking, they perished in the effort. Thus, turn where we will, we are driven back upon principles.

With respect to Chartism, the question is not, What says Feargus O'Connor? or, What says Mr. O'Brien? but the questions to be asked are, and they are questions which will be thundered louder and louder, till the deafest member of the aristocracy shall have heard them,—Why should not the poor man, to whom God has given the use of reason, be able to vote as well as the rich man? Why should the poor be subjected to the temptation of bribery, or to persecution by voting aloud, while the rich vote by ballot in their clubs, and sometimes in Parliament? Why should a man, who is sent to fill the most important post he can possibly occupy, be irresponsible for seven years; or why should it be merely an honorary post, to be filled only by a man with a certain amount of property? And why should a town, containing fifteen thousand voters, send the same number of members to the House of Commons as a trumpery little Government borough, containing only three hundred? This is the People's Charter; and who will say that it is not founded on reason and justice?

That it is so founded, indeed, is admitted by most men of any reflection, the main argument used by its opponents against its adoption being, that it would interfere too much with the established order of society; that the country is not ripe for such a sweeping measure; and that our present Governmental institutions would give way before it, and probably be replaced by worse. Now what do all these arguments amount to? Why, it must be clear to every one, that they are mere confessions of the actual necessity of such a measure; that the darkness is so gross as to render the light unbearable; and that the long existence and deep-rooted growth of abuses has rendered the adoption of fair and honest measures difficult and painful. It is, in fact, the consciousness of disease so virulent, that, in order to sustain life, the remedy must be terrible in its operation, and that sharp and acute suffering must be borne ere a cure can be effected.

With respect to the line of conduct proper to be pursued for the promotion and advancement of the great principles contained in the Charter, let us take warning by recent events. Let it be well understood that no blustering defiance, no sanguinary threats ending in abject submissiveness, will avail anything. No incredible petitions, signed by impossible names, and exaggerated till they become ridiculous, will advance the good cause. Energetic but peaceful agitation, firm and intelligent advocacy of right, and fearless but calm denunciation of wrong, on all proper occasions, are the means by which we may confidently expect to obtain success.

We cannot conclude these remarks without offering a few words of earnest remonstrance to a class of well-meaning and respectable men, who, though happily on the decrease, are somehow or other pretty numerous among the wealthier body of Dissenters. But that the title has of late become somewhat ambiguous, we might call them Conservatives; as it is, they may fairly be classed with Liberals of the old school, men who are not unwilling to allow reform, but are yet nervously opposed to anything like active effort in the shape of innovation, or bold and decided denunciation of existing evils. The best patriot, say they, is the man of respectable life and quiet demeanour, who spends his days in peace and contentment, offering no offence, and thinking charitably of all men. Now there can be no doubt that as far as a man's own comfort and quietude are concerned, he can adopt no better course of life, but surely there can be less doubt that a man must have a higher aim than mere personal comfort, or even personal improvement, before he can be called a patriot, or even before he can be entitled to the character of a generous public-spirited member of society. In these days we must be innovators, or we are nothing. With reverence we say it, but with all confidence, that the greatest and most radical innovator who ever came into the world was Jesus Christ. Venerable institutions, time-honoured observances, grievances, national and ecclesiastical, injustice, public and private, were each and all the objects of his unceasing and energetic rebuke. Toleration was not in his vocabulary. The supporters of false and hollow systems of religion he called "hypocrites," the literal expounders of the law who forgot the spirit of the commandments were "fools and blind," or "whited sepulchres." With him truth was worth maintaining, and that warmly, and falsehood was denounced, and that vehemently. If anything is to be learned from this, then, surely it is that, wherever we find erroneous systems we cannot by any possibility be too earnest in our endeavours to uproot them, and whenever we are satisfied that we have the truth on our side the more enthusiastic we are in its advancement the better.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY IN PARLIAMENT.

WE read with great satisfaction an announcement in the daily papers of last week, that at a meeting of Liberal members of Parliament it was resolved, "that a more cordial understanding and co-operation are urgently required among such members of Parliament as are favourable to the extension of the suffrage, an equitable arrangement of taxation, a reduction of expenditure, and the general advance of Reform principles throughout Great Britain and Ireland." "Urgently required," indeed, is such an union: who can doubt it? At present, the House of Commons is entirely in the hands of the two aristocratic factions, who merge their minor differences, and vie with each other in frowning down even the mention of popular topics, while they abet the Ministry in their hasty and tyrannical crusade against the freedom of speech and opinion. The case stands thus: Whigs and Tories *versus* the people, the latter being represented in their own House by some two score Radical members, without leaders, without organization, without fixed principles of action amongst themselves. We think these gentlemen are to blame for not having taken before this the step which is now indicated. At all events, if they display any hesitation or lukewarmness now, they will let slip a golden opportunity. The game is in their hands, if they will take it up and play it manfully. The ill-judged demonstrations of physical force, and the palpable unfitness and inconsistency of the Chartist leaders, have left the honest portion of the working classes peculiarly open to wise and moderate counsels; and we think that the time has at length arrived for an union between the middle and working classes, upon terms satisfactory to all parties. But the ground must be occupied at once. A scheme of the *maximum* of reform upon which the Radical party can consent to act together in Parliament, should at once be submitted to the public.

We are especially anxious that the programme of this movement, whatever it may be, should be submitted to the people before the House adjourns for the Easter recess. Let the public, and above all, the working classes, see whether *anything* is to be expected from the body which purposes to represent them. At present,

we are absolutely going back. Questions connected with the suffrage and the Church have of late years been shelved altogether, as if by the tacit consent of all parties in the House. Under these circumstances, can we be surprised at the impatience of the industrious classes? Are we to have more physical force demonstrations—is the peace of society to be in jeopardy every hour, because our rulers are blind to the signs of the times, and paralyzed by the doctrines of a fatal finality?

We perceive, amongst the list of those who signed the requisition to which we have alluded, several of whose courage and fidelity to sound principles there can be no doubt. Others, however, there are, whose names are not associated, to our knowledge, with important reforms of any kind. We trust that the *quality* of the People's Party, in the first instance especially, will be more considered than its *numbers*. Let them not dilute their strength, and narrow their aims, by the admission of men who will withdraw their hands from the plough at the smile of a minister, or the frown of a constituency. They will be numerous enough out of doors, depend upon it; and if honest and true to themselves, they may do wonders in the House of Commons. They may go out at first in bare divisions, but let them always divide, and always upon questions which will carry the people with them. Let them get up in their places, one after another, and *speak the truth*, and shame their servile colleagues. The past is irrevocable; the present demands courage and self-sacrifice; the future is all their own.

But why is not the Church question specifically included amongst the reforms to which we are invited? Is this prudence, or timidity? We fear the latter. Is the existence of an Established Church, under any circumstances, compatible with the theory of a People's Party? Can practical reforms wink any longer at the enormous grievance of the Church of Ireland; and has not the time come for a guilty nation to be set right before God and the world in this matter? We put these questions respectfully but earnestly to all whom they may concern. We do not urge them to make the base of their operations too extensive; but surely it is bad strategy to invade the enemy's territory, and leave his strongest fortress unchallenged in the rear.

OUR SHAM REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

THE first-fruits of the new organization of the Reform members of the House of Commons is the notice given by Mr. Hume on Monday night, that, after the Easter recess, he will draw attention to the state of the representation of the people. What is to be the extent of the reform proposed by the Radical members has not yet transpired; but that it must be comprehensive to meet the requirements of the people, as well as to be of any practical value, does not admit of a doubt. The present session has shown us what the present system is in practice. We have seen our legislators acting with all the arrogance and effrontery of an irresponsible body. The People's House has been at perpetual war with the known sentiments of the people. In whatever direction the Liberal members have endeavoured to promote improvement—whether in the assessment of taxation, a reduction of expenditure, or a repeal of the game-laws—they have been opposed and sneered at by an incapable Ministry and an overwhelming majority of the legislature. Some men wonder at these things, perhaps without cause. Inquiry would soon diminish their surprise, and convince them of the utter hopelessness of expecting popular reforms from a House the great bulk of which is virtually elected by an oligarchy, and which comprises an all-powerful majority linked to the ascendancy of the aristocracy by the ties of office or appointment. When we find that, out of 295 members who opposed any reduction of our military expenditure, 115 are directly or indirectly connected with the army or navy, we are at no loss to perceive the obstacles that impede even the most urgent reforms.

The more closely we examine "the system," the more flagrant appear its enormities. The country cannot be generally aware of the delusion palmed upon them under the guise of a representative constitution, or the cry for reform would not have lain dormant so long. The repetition of a few facts on the subject may not be without service at the present time, when the House of Commons is standing at the bar of public opinion.

We have before us now a summary of the returns of the number of electors on the register in each county, city, borough, &c., in Great Britain, in the year 1846, ordered by the House of Commons in July last, on the motion of the late member for Coventry, Mr. W. Williams. We gather from this document that the whole number of electors of all classes on the register in 1846, was 944,473; namely, in England, County electors, 475,036; City and Borough, 342,342; Wales, County, 37,340; City and Borough, 48,545; Scotland, County, 48,953; City and Borough, 28,507. In comparison with the return made in 1842 the

present show a gross increase of only 3,691 on the whole number of electors!

The flagrant anomalies which these documents exhibit have often before been dwelt upon, but we cannot refrain from adding a few to the number of illustrations of the practical injustice involved in our present representative system. The number of registered electors for England and Wales is 865,923, which, taking the population to be sixteen millions, and deducting five per cent. for those who possess more than one county and borough qualification, gives us one elector for every 19½ of the population, or about one elector for every 5.1 of the grown-up male adults. Scotland again has 78,550 electors; which, taking the population to be three millions, and calculating as before, gives us one elector for every forty-one and a half of its population, or about one for every eight of the grown-up male adults. Ireland has about 118,000 registered electors to a population of nine millions, being one for every seventy-six of the population, or every fifteen of the grown-up male adults. England, therefore, has twice the proportion of electors to her population compared with Scotland; and Scotland nearly double that of Ireland. The inequality of the representation scarcely needs to be illustrated. It will be sufficient to refer to the fact that the rotten boroughs of Harwich, Horsham, and Lymington, neither having so many as 400 electors, returned the same number of members as Westminster, Liverpool, and the Tower Hamlets, each of which have more than 15,000 voters. These are but two or three instances selected from at least forty or fifty.

But it is to the startling fact that the majority of the House of Commons is returned by less than one-fifth of the whole constituency, that we wish to call especial attention. By an analysis of the returns before us, together with the last return made from Ireland, it will be found that of the 944,473 electors of Great Britain and Ireland, 200,000 elect a majority of the House; in other words, the 200,000 constituents of the small boroughs, comprising about a thirty-third part of the adult male population, practically govern the whole of the United Kingdom.

We could extend our analysis almost *ad infinitum*, but sufficient has been adduced to show the gross injustice which is involved in the present system, and also to account for the composition of the House of Commons. To all intents and purposes we are the mere servants of the holders of the rotten boroughs. Tavistock, Harwich, Eye, Horsham, and such like, govern us—and govern us they will as long as they have the power of returning each as many members as the largest constituencies. Open themselves to every venality and corruption, they offer the boldest inducements for the practice of every species of bribery and treating—nay, they court, they invite it. Is it to a representative assembly returned by such parties that we are to look for reform in our laws, or retrenchment in our expenditures? Yet, if the registers and the reports of the Election Committees speak not most atrocious falsehoods, our present House of Commons is such an assembly.

Well may the *Times* declare that a reform of the system is imperative. Almost every nation on the continent is outstripping Great Britain in the extent of their popular legislatures. France, Germany, and even Rome itself, have obtained a much greater share of political freedom than our aristocracy have deigned to concede to those whom they perpetually boast of as constituting the most enlightened nation of the world. Guizot could boast that the 200,000 electors of France were entirely under his control. Our aristocracy can likewise boast that with their 200,000 hired, or coerced, serfs they can quietly rule the destinies of this great empire. In the changes which are impending—for even the monopolizers of political power know that a change is inevitable—it is desirable above all things to have no sham representation. Aristocratic supremacy in the People's House must be extinguished ere we can hope for equitable government.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Thursday a Court was held, and the freedom of the City presented to Lord Hardinge, who was present, and acknowledged the honour done to him. His lordship was loudly cheered. The following motion was then carried, after some discussion:—"That the thanks of this Court be given to her Majesty's Government for the judicious and energetic measures adopted on Monday last, the 10th inst., for the preservation of the peace and order of this great metropolis." Mr. Gilpin was the only dissident. He expressed his belief that the preparations so elaborately made were not required by the circumstances of the case [cries of "Oh, oh"].

REPRESENTATION OF WESTMINSTER.—On Tuesday, an address was issued to the electors of Westminster, from John Edridge, Esq., Corsham House, Chippenham, announcing his intention to oppose Sir De Lacy Evans on the next election. The grounds of opposition are stated to be Sir De Lacy's support of the army estimates.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE PRACTICAL MAN.

(From the *Spectator*.)

WHEN folks move in a hurry they are very apt to overlook such things as old papers, which strangers ought not to find; and the precipitate journey of King Louis Philippe was marked by the usual forgetfulness. The curious have been ransacking his repositories, and the secret correspondence of the ex-King and his Ministers is unceremoniously turned out to public view. We beg to disclaim any overhauling of these characteristic documents on our part when we last attempted an analysis of that enterprising man of business, "Mr. Smith;" though we fear we shall hardly be believed—so strongly are the tradesmanlike incidents brought out by these State papers.

One set relates to the Spanish marriages. It is instructive to see the close attention to the main chance with which Mr. Smith enters upon State affairs—the strict attention which he pays to the interests of self and family. He is not distracted by any magnificent traditions of Henry the Fourth, or of Louis the Fourteenth and his policy; he has no great projects for France; the one thing before him is, how to arrange the affair so as to fall in with his plans for settling "all my sons" in life. The homely manner in which he regards other parties in the arrangement—"our good little Queen" Victoria, an important connexion to be assiduously caajoled; "the excellent Aberdeen," that most respectable gentleman, "who wishes to be well with his friends;" Lord Palmerston, that indiscreet and troublesome fellow, who will spoil sport; his own daughter Louise, such a convenient go-between to talk over her friend Victoria—quite betrays the shopkeeper. There is the free and easy, smiling, anxious, paltry selfishness, which knows no shame in self-exhibition—the deadness of feeling to all great considerations, the trading with exalted interests—the trick of vulgar courtesy to all connexions, "the nobility, gentry, and public in general"—the lumbering, jaunty, purdy, coarse, familiar, obsequious cajolery—the pretended benevolence, only half caring to conceal the disregard of others' feelings so long as the disregard entails no loss to himself—the grave and earnest care for business credit, or at least creditable appearances which distinguish the thriving shopkeeper, whose world is his counter. The royal plotter enters with disgusting callousness into questions respecting the young Queen Isabella's nubile condition, and the probability of issue on her marriage with Don Francisco, as though he were a breeder of stock. He vaunts "the military successes of all my sons," elements for puffing them off as husbands on sale or return. "That would not suit me any more than you," he says to Lord Aberdeen, speaking of the succession to crowns with the slang of the shop. There is nothing new in Louis Philippe's letter as to the facts—it simply confirms the previous statements with respect to the bargaining that had gone on in London and Paris, and at Eu, about poor Queen Isabella: the novelty is the unreserved exposure of the writer—the oblivion of his exalted duties and of his country—the merely personal bustle and family managing—the tedious, trivial, low manner of his palavering explanations.

Another exposure is the Blanqui affair. It turns out that King Louis Philippe's Government retained M. Blanqui in constant correspondence, as a spy to report the conduct of his Republican associates. M. Blanqui took an active share in the deliberations of his party, and then secretly reported all, with details and names.

M. Libri has requested the British public to suspend judgment on the charge against him, of stealing books; the charge was at all events laid before M. Guizot, and remained unsifted. Indeed, the letters of M. Guizot and M. Salvandy to the King disclose a degree of servility, of easy toleration for corruption, of mean trading in honorary rewards, most disgraceful to all concerned. One is ashamed to find M. Leverrier, the young astronomer, in such low company.

Louis Philippe was called to the throne for the good of France—at least that was the notion of *ce cher Lafayette*, poor soul! But Louis Philippe was a strictly practical man: he had no wild romantic notions about devotion to one's country, patriotism, and all that. Such phrases must be used, and he could repeat them glibly enough on set occasion; but he was far too much a man of the world not to know better. His guiding rule was the one so exclusively recognised by modern political moralists—self-interest, or that reflex kind of self-interest which consists in pushing one's family. Each for himself. When he succeeded in obtaining the place of King, he lost no pains in turning it to the best account. As for France!—However, like many over-traders, he has at last been unfortunate in business: all his schemes are blown; he is obliged to decamp; and he leaves France to revolution and anarchy. His last stroke of trade was the attempt to obtain the place for his grandson. France had nearly served his purpose, but what had he done for her? At the best, he had simply forgotten her. Such is the fate of a country that falls into the hands of your strictly practical man, guided by self-interest alone, exempt from any poetic aspirations for the good of his species, or any generous love of greatness for its own sake.

It is mortifying to find our own Court mixed up with such discreditable matters, even as litigants. What business had we in Spain at all—especially when Spain herself was forgotten, and the question degenerated to paltry family intrigues for the advancement of the Bourbons?

THE NEW RADICAL ORGANIZATION.

(From the Times.)

WHEN we urged upon the Government and the metropolis the wisdom of an overpowering and conclusive display against the threateners of the brand and the sword, we were careful to observe that such a course, being the duty and interest of all, compromised the opinions of none, and that every point of "the Charter" was a fair subject of discussion. That language we have ever held; and well we know that, if we forgot it, we should soon be forgotten by this country. The instinct of improvement, of adaptation, of progress, is strong in the British mind, and will not be lulled by triumphs or ensnared by finalities; still less will it be treacherously led from its own steady course by desperadoes or visionaries, and the sycophants ever ready to puff up their schemes. Through peace, and even through war,—in the midst of revolutions and alarms, and still more in the hour of re-established confidence—England will always be a reforming nation. While France is endeavouring to obliterate its former self and substitute a new one, to organize industry on the principles of idleness, to establish liberty by the most arbitrary enactments, and adorn peace with the apparatus of war, we will proceed meanwhile in the quiet path of real and practical reform.

For these reasons there appears to us nothing ill-timed, but rather the contrary, in the new move just made by what we may call, without offence, the Radical party. Fifty members of the lower House, usually distinguished by their extreme views, have come forward to solicit "a more cordial understanding and co-operation among such members of Parliament as are favourable to the extension of the suffrage, an equitable arrangement of taxation, a reduction of expenditure, and the general advance of reform principles throughout England and Ireland." A meeting has been held, the above objects have been adopted in the form of a resolution, and a chairman, deputy-chairman, and secretary appointed. Here, then, is the nucleus and groundwork of a permanent organization, while the names are a sufficient pledge that definite objects will be proposed and prosecuted with vigour and perseverance. Self-preservation and political existence dictated such a step. Without organization or policy the Reformers in Parliament were dwindling down to a merely obstructive faction. Week after week they only appeared as a miserable minority protesting against a vote or tax, or an increase of power in the Executive, as if they had nothing better to recommend than that nothing should be done. No party, however, can subsist on negatives. Nature abhors a vacuum, and when people find their leaders do not know what to be at, they will quickly fall off to those who are more prepared for action.

The new organization proposes definite measures—three in particular, extension of the suffrage, an equitable arrangement of taxation, and a reduction of expenditure. The last of these is the one upon which we have the least hopes of being able to offer an immediate adhesion to the new party. On the second point we shall be only too happy to hear a good proposition. We will, however, confess that we know not whether to be assured or alarmed by the project of a more equitable arrangement. The question of equity as applied to taxation is one of peculiar delicacy. There exists in some quarters the idea that taxation ought to have a retrospective, and even a penal bearing. That idea we hold to be closely allied to retributive confiscation. The only true and practical equity applicable to the case is a due proportion to the capacity of the tax-payer and the benefits he receives from the State. We wait to learn whether that is the equity now in view by these gentlemen. The first of the three topics is on all accounts the most important, and that on which, also, we are most prepared to go along with these gentlemen. They have only to announce not so much a project, as a definite line of action, and they will at once take the wind from the mischievous and disorderly Chartist agitation, and secure the concurrence of a large and respectable party.

Every session brings out the abuses and deficiencies of the British Constituency. While large towns and thriving districts, that have almost doubled their population since 1832, are unrepresented, many small boroughs are still allowed to reap their periodical harvest of corruption. The morality and the character of the empire are vitiated and disgraced by disclosures, which light on this or that town, but indicate the moral condition of a class. There are not a few constituencies amongst us which may be said to be born and bred, to live and die, in an atmosphere of bribery. Deal with them as Retford ought to have been dealt with before it was too late. There are again many constituencies of a higher class leavened and disgraced by those relics of the old system, the half-pauper freemen. We have seen some painful instances in which useful, honourable, and even distinguished members, after perhaps many years' service in Parliament, have been suddenly ousted and disgraced by the result of an election committee, simply through the fell necessity they had been under of paying "the freemen" their customary black mail. When a class of voters is found to be invariably and inveterately corrupt, why should not the diseased mass be shaken off at once? Such evils call for a remedy on their own account, but at the present moment they are more than usually inconvenient. With beggarly "freemen," possessing the votes denied to many honest householders, and beggarly boroughs in the like position to large and thriving towns, we are sure to have a cry for universal suffrage, and, what is more, a weak instead of a strong case against it.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

THE CHARTIST PETITION.

On Thursday, Mr. THORNLEY brought up a special report from the Committee on Public Petitions; which was read by the Clerk at the table, as follows:—

The Committee on Public Petitions, in conformity with the instructions of the House of the 26th day of November last in all cases to set forth the number of signatures to each petition, and also having regard to the power at the same time delegated to them "to report their opinion and observations thereupon to the House," have agreed to the following special report:—

"That, on the 10th day of April instant, a petition for 'Universal Suffrage, &c., from inhabitants of the British Isles and subjects of the British Crown' was presented to the House.

"Your Committee strongly feel the value of the right of petition; consider the exercise of it as one of the most important privileges of the subjects of the realm; and feel the necessity of preserving the exercise of such privilege from abuse.

"And having also a due regard to the importance of the very numerous signed petition forming the subject of the present report, they feel bound to represent to the House, that in the matter of signatures there has been, in their opinion, a gross abuse of that privilege.

"The honourable member for Nottingham stated, on presenting the petition in question to the House, that 5,706,000 signatures were attached to it. Upon a most careful examination of the number of signatures in the Committee-room, in which examination thirteen law-stationer's clerks were engaged for upwards of seven hours, with the person ordinarily employed in counting the signatures appended to petitions under the superintendence of the clerk of your Committee, the number of signatures has been ascertained to be 1,975,496. It is further evident to your Committee, that on numerous consecutive sheets the signatures are in one and the same handwriting.

"Your Committee have also observed the names of distinguished individuals attached to the petition, who cannot be supposed to have concurred in its prayer, and as little to have subscribed it: amongst such occur the names of her Majesty in one place, as Victoria Rex, April 1; the Duke of Wellington, K.G.; Sir Robert Peel, &c. &c.

"In addition to this species of abuse, your Committee have observed another equally in derogation of the just value of petitions—namely, the insertion of names which are obviously altogether fictitious, such as 'No Cheese,' 'Fugnose,' 'Flatnose,' &c.

"There are other words and phrases which, though written in the form of signatures, and included in the number reported, your Committee will not hazard offending the House, and the dignity and decency of their own proceedings, by reporting; though it may be added, that they are obviously signatures belonging to no human being."

Mr. FEARGUS O'CONNOR would not undertake to say that the numbers were correct: there might have been errors. It is an old saying, that those who hide may find; and perhaps something of the spy system had been resorted to with regard to this great national undertaking. He had letters which showed that the number of real signatures affixed to the petition, in England, Scotland, and Wales, was 4,800,000. As to the computation, he maintained that thirteen clerks could not count 1,900,000 signatures in seventeen hours; nor could twenty do it.

Mr. THORNLEY insisted that the utmost attention had been paid to the examination of the petition. The Committee even had it weighed, in consequence of a statement by Mr. O'Connor on that head: it was found to be, not five tons, but $5\frac{1}{2}$ hundred-weights.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL repudiated the insinuation that the proceedings as to the petition might have something to do with a spy system. Perhaps the menacing declarations thrown out in the Convention were a part of the "spy system," introduced into the Convention to promote the ends of the Government? [laughter.]

The Earl of ARUNDEL and SURRY remarked that the Chartists had issued an advertisement stating that 500,000 persons had met on Kennington-common on Monday! The highest estimate was 23,000.

Mr. CRIPPS made a further statement on the part of the Committee, of which he was a member:—

He had spent two hours and a half over the population returns, and found that the petition could not have been signed by 5,700,000 persons [adult males]; it was subsequently discovered, however, that it was signed by women in the proportion of 8.2 to every 100 signatures. Mr. O'Connor had said the petition weighed five tons; perhaps he made a mistake of tons for hundredweights.

Mr. O'CONNOR: I did not say "tons."

Mr. CRIPPS: I pledge my honour as a gentleman that the honourable and learned Member said "tons." But whether "tons" or "hundred-weights," the petition was brought here in three crazy cabs. Sir, I do not mean to cast any obloquy or ridicule upon the petition; but I do mean to cast obloquy upon the honourable and learned gentleman for making these exaggerated statements.

Mr. O'CONNOR: I rise to order [hear, and laughter]. I rise to explain the observation to which the honourable Member referred, and to advert to the language he has used ["Order, order!"]. Sir, I said—(Mr. O'Connor was interrupted by cries of "Order!"). Then I will explain—"Order, chair!"].

The SPEAKER said, if the honourable Member wished to make any explanation as to his personal conduct, he must wait until the Member in possession of the House had concluded his speech, unless the House allowed him to do it now.

Mr. CRIPPS: Sir, I repeat the observation; and I say that no member of this House ever did more to deprive himself of any title to credence; and I never for myself can believe him again:—

How the deluded creatures who have hitherto given credit to the honourable and learned member will regard him after this, I do not know; but after the injuries inflicted upon eight or ten respectable tradesmen at Camberwell, who have been ruined by persons, I will not say connected with the honourable and learned member,—after this has occurred within the last fortnight, the House ought not to be outraged by the ribald mass of obscenity and impiety contained amongst the signatures to this petition, exhibiting expressions which the strumpets in the street would blush to write. The names of particular individuals are affixed over and over again. The Duke of Wellington's name appears sixteen or seventeen times; that of the honourable and gallant member for Lincoln (Colonel Sibthorp) a dozen times [laughter], the name of the honourable member for Manchester, and that of the honourable member for the West Riding of Yorkshire, appear I cannot tell how many times. I speak from what I saw myself, and I have a list of all these names in my pocket. There is another fact: on one of the sheets were written the words, "We could not get paid for any more" [laughter, and cries of "Hear, hear!"]

Mr. O'CONNOR denied that he had blamed the Committee—

With regard to the petition itself, I could not be supposed to be accountable for anything written in it [oh, oh!] Was it possible for me, in the nature of things, to examine the different sheets? I never saw one of them till I saw them rolled up here [oh, oh!] I am now told I had no business to present any petition the character of which I did not know [cheers]. If such were the rule, that petition would never have been presented at all [cheers]. As to my having forfeited my title to credence [loud cheers] in having presented a petition for which I am not responsible, with all respect to the House and the Committee, I shall have that explained elsewhere [shouts of laughter].

[Mr. O'Connor immediately left the House.]

Mr. JOHN ABEL SMITH was present on Kennington-common, and calculated that there were not 15,000 present—

That I believe to be an excessive calculation. I have reason to know, that previously to the meeting means were taken to ascertain the whole number of persons which could be present if the Common were entirely covered. The whole space, closely packed, would not hold more than 90,000; and at no time was there more than a quarter of the space occupied. I have further to state, that I am convinced I exaggerate them when I say that the numbers of the procession were under 8,000. I will only add, that the honourable and learned member for Nottingham, in my presence on Monday evening, stated the numbers present on Kennington-common as exceeding half a million [cheers and laughter].

Colonel SIBTHORP rejoiced at what had happened in the House that evening, and told an anecdote—

On Monday night, when the honourable and learned member for Nottingham, addressing me at the door of the House, said, "I am glad all went off peaceably," I said, "I have only one regret that it did." "Why?" he asked. "Because," I replied, "if you had attempted to come over the bridge, you would have got the damndest hiding mortal man ever received" [loud cheers and laughter].

The conversation proceeded without much progress, until Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE asked Lord John Russell whether, after what had passed, he should think it necessary to waste a whole evening in discussing the Chartist petition?

Lord JOHN RUSSELL replied, that he should certainly not recede from his word [cheers].

Mr. LUSHINGTON called attention to Mr. O'Connor's concluding words, as he apprehended that fatal consequences might ensue [much laughter, and cries of "Oh!"]

Mr. DISRAELI hoped that the Speaker would interpose his authority to prevent any more serious and painful meeting on Kennington-common than had already taken place [hear, hear, and laughter].

There was some further discussion on this point, the SPEAKER recapitulating what had passed. He did not think that Mr. Cripps had transgressed the rules of the House; but he hoped he would disclaim any intention to be personally offensive.

The greatest possible reliance (observed the Speaker) is placed on what falls from a member of Parliament; and in proportion to the great weight given to the words of an honourable member should be his caution that what he states is strictly accurate. The honourable member for Nottingham, like every other member, is responsible to the House for the petition he presents containing no disrespectful language, for its coming from the place whence it purports to emanate, and for the genuineness and propriety of the signatures to it. Of course the honourable member might be imposed upon with respect to names appended to the petition, as being the names of the parties signing it; but there are some points on which he could not be imposed upon if he took that proper precaution which he owed to the House.

Mr. CRIPPS stated that he had spoken in perfect sincerity. He had not intended any insult to Mr. O'Connor; he entertained no hostile intentions; and he would defer to the opinion of the House. He could not withdraw the substance of what he had expressed: he meant to say that he could not place reliance on any statement which the honourable member might make; but he was extremely sorry if he had used any expression which was not strictly Parliamentary, and desired to retract any such expression.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL having moved "that Feargus O'Connor, Esq., member for the town of Nottingham, do attend this House forthwith," it was ordered accordingly. Subsequently Mr. Gosset, the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, stated that he had served the notice on Mr. O'Connor, at the office of the *Northern Star*, at twenty minutes to seven o'clock. Mr. O'Connor did not say that he would attend, but asked what would be the consequence if he did not attend? To which Mr. Gosset answered that it would depend upon the pleasure of the House. On the motion of Sir GEORGE GAY, it was ordered that Mr. O'Connor be taken into custody of the Sergeant-

at Arms. Meanwhile, the House went on with other matters.

Later in the evening Mr. O'Connor appeared in custody, was discharged, took his seat, and the SPEAKER stated what had taken place, calling upon Mr. Cripps to repeat what he had before said. Mr. Cripps complied:—

He stated that he had felt warmly the slight which had been cast on the Committee, and that he had been induced to express himself more warmly, perhaps, than was consistent with his duties to the House; that he meant no personal affront to the member for Nottingham, and retracted the unparliamentary expressions; and that he regretted the trouble which he had occasioned to the House.

Mr. O'Connor then made his statement:—

Previously to leaving the House, there were three points upon which he had to address them. First, as regards his duty to the House, he regretted that he should be the means of misleading them in respect to the number of signatures attached to the petition. In regard to the second, he entirely exculpated the Committee from any blame in the matter. In regard to the third point, affecting himself, he felt it must be settled elsewhere: he would not have been satisfied with the retraction of the unparliamentary language of the honourable member for Cirencester, had he not, at the close of his observations, also retracted those expressions which one gentleman should not use to another.

After what had passed, he should not found any motion upon the petition, but leave the question to be settled between the Government, the committee, the petitioners, and the country.

CROWN GOVERNMENT SECURITY BILL.

On Wednesday the debate on this bill was resumed, on the motion to go into Committee.

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON supposed the case of two illiterate reporters charging a person with words he never spoke: he would be committed for felony, no bail would be allowed, and he would be in a worse position than if accused of high treason. No bill of the kind had been hurried on with such rapidity.

Mr. OSBORNE suggested that, if the words objected to had been law in 1830, Sir De Lacy Evans and Sir John Hobhouse might have been sent to Norfolk Island; and Mr. Macaulay himself might have been banished for seven years for justifying the Puritans in bringing Charles the First to the block.

Who could take on himself to say that circumstances might not arise when it would become the sacred duty of every man to levy war against the Sovereign? [oh! oh!] The case had arisen before; and it was a new doctrine for those who sat on the treasury bench to deny that it might occur again. Mr. Osborne recalled the sentiments of Mr. Fox on Mr. Pitt's bill in 1796, when it was proposed to insert a clause against open and advised speaking. "Depend upon it," said Mr. Fox, "if men speak less they will feel more; and arms will be left them as the only resource to procure redress for themselves, or exercise vengeance on their oppressors." He even said, "If such a bill were passed, resistance to it was a mere question of prudence."

If gentlemen on the treasury bench (continued Mr. Osborne) disowned these sentiments, let them abandon Brooks's, and become members of the Pitt Club. He lamented the state of parties in that House. The present was a Government of invalids, just the sort of people who always lasted longest. At one time they leaned for support on this party, then on that. On one side the right honourable baronet the member for Tamworth served them for a crutch, and on the other the aid of the noble lord the member for Lynn was invoked; while the party by whose support and under whose auspices the Whigs attained power were completely thrown overboard. Unless they could check the old woman in the Cabinet, the Government of the country would be placed in the greatest peril.

Mr. Osborne alluded to the new Alien Bill, and expressed his alarm. The Alien Act of Mr. Pitt was one of the first causes of the war with France. Would not France say that we admitted Louis Philippe and his Ministers, but passed an alien act to exclude foreigners who had opinions of their own?

Mr. O'CONNOR maintained the sufficiency of the present law to meet any case of writing, publishing, or speaking treasonable language:—

The people ought to influence, and even overawe, their representatives when exercising that privilege which the people alone could confer. He regretted that the right hon. member for Tamworth had not been enabled to work out all the reforms and improvements which he contemplated; and even still, many who were among the lovers of freedom in this country looked to that eminent person as the main agent for securing their eventual release from the shackles which ignorant legislation had imposed upon them. Those classes, he would repeat it, looked much more to the right honourable member for Tamworth than they did to the noble member for London, respecting whom they naturally inquired, where were the promises that he uttered at the Edinburgh meeting?

Mr. PHILIP HOWARD urged Mr. Horsman's suggestion of making the bill temporary. He deprecated any attempt to deprive foreigners of the protection they had always found in England; but he believed the Government bill on that subject was only a registration bill.

Mr. REYNOLDS also hoped for some modification. Though not agreeing in all Mr. Smith O'Brien's sentiments, he admired his manliness. That gentleman and his associates were only straws floating on the surface of the stream; but they served to show what the current was.

Mr. HUME referred to the facts of Muir's case:—

Muir having gone down from London to Scotland to get up reform meetings, was arrested, and indicted for wickedly exciting, by speeches, a spirit of disloyalty against the established Government, and reading aloud at a public meeting a seditious and inflammatory writing. The late Lord Grey had declared that Muir was punished because he advocated Parliamentary reform.

Mr. Hume himself had attended and presided over meetings attended by 40,000 of his countrymen, who passed resolutions that they would pay no taxes; but

Government never interfered with them. He had himself given to the Attorney-General a copy of the resolution declaring that the people would no longer pay taxes; and the hon. and learned gentleman remarked, "You are acting illegally." His reply was, "I know it; try me." Lord Melbourne was asked at that time whether he would allow such meetings to take place; and his answer was, that, after consultation with his colleagues, and the law officers of the Crown, he did not think it right to interfere.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL vindicated his consistency as an adherent to the principles of Mr. Fox:—

He believed that great liberty of discussion should be tolerated; and that even inflammatory language—language exciting alienation from our monarchical constitution—should be allowed to proceed to great lengths, for without the allowance of some abuses of that kind free liberty of discussion could not be maintained. But these are extraordinary times; persons now think themselves at liberty to call confederations together, and there declare that war ought to be waged against the Sovereign, and the armed troops seduced or bribed. Persons thought it advisable, even in that House, to declare how they will proceed, and what they will recommend for the success of rebellion [cheering]. Traitors are now to be found who sit down quietly in their closets to show how, by various infernal machines, by the pouring of cold vitriol and other preparations, the death of their fellow-countrymen may be procured. The designs of such persons should be defeated; and he thought the general opinion was that Government had waited too long before interfering, rather than interfering intemperately and hastily.

With regard to the cases of Muir and Palmer, Lord John had always considered their condemnation unjustifiable; but there is a great difference between using language of the nature they were charged with uttering, and using language which directly tends to levying war against the Crown, and producing insurrection. That must be the intent, according to the bill now proposed. That must be the design, otherwise the words are harmless; at least, they cannot be prosecuted under this bill. Lord John admitted that the proof of words was difficult; but a jury might require, and he had no doubt they would require, fuller proof with regard to words spoken, though spoken with preparation, than with regard to words published in writing. That, however, was a question for Committee.

Lord John concluded with information on Ministerial intentions: "While we think that all that part of the bill which tends to mitigate the character of the offence from high treason to felony, and the penalty from death to transportation, and that part which extends the old act to Ireland, should be maintained as we propose it, we are ready, as this other part of the bill with respect to 'advised speaking' is new, that that part should have only a temporary operation, and should come again under the consideration of the House."

The House then went into committee, and Mr. BERNAL read the words in the third clause which had been arrived at on the previous day—"by open and advised speaking."

Mr. HORSMAN expressed his great satisfaction at this concession. Still, he condemned the inconsiderate haste with which a portion of the House was prepared to pass the bill.

He quoted Blackstone, Judge Foster, and Sir Matthew Hale, to show the unconstitutional nature of the step proposed in the bill—the doing away for the first time with the distinction between words written and words spoken. The last writer says—"Regular words, unless they are committed to writing, are not an overt act within the statute of Edward III.; and the reason is, because they are easily subject to be mistaken, misapplied, or misreported or misunderstood by the hearers;" and Blackstone reminds us that they may even signify differently according to the tone of voice with which they are delivered. Lord John Russell says the words are evidence of the intent or design, and quotes from East that words to "encourage or command" to levy war have the guilt of a misdemeanour. But here the words are not "encourage or command," but "compass or imagine," which Sir M. Hale declares to be of great latitude. It is proposed by words only to prove the design.

Lord Campbell, in his Life of Lord Chancellor Eldon, has told us, that when Lord Eldon introduced the 36th George III. he called it a legislative exposition of the statute of Edward III. Lord Campbell remarks—"It greatly extended the provisions of that famous law, which for many centuries had sufficiently guarded the safety of the throne and the liberties of the people. In stead of the simple enactments against 'compassing the King's death,' or actually 'levying war against him,' the penalties of high treason were applied to the vague charges of 'imagining' to levy war against him, or 'imagining' to intimidate or overawe both or either Houses of Parliament; such imaginings being expressed by publishing any writing, or by any overt act or deed. The Whig leaders, although with a very slender following, made a noble stand against these encroachments on public liberty." Lord Campbell added—"The object seems to have been to include such cases as those of Lord George Gordon, Hardy, and Horne Tooke, so as by this 'legislative exposition' to establish the doctrine of constructive treason, which juries and the whole nation had repudiated. Upon a strict construction of the act, I doubt very much whether the proceedings of Mr. Cobden, praised so highly by Sir Robert Peel, might not be brought within it, in a speech of nine hours from an ingenious counsel. It still remains on the statute-book, but may be considered a dead letter. When I, as Attorney-General, prosecuted Frost and his associates for high treason at Monmouth, in 1840, I proceeded entirely on the old statute of Edward III.; and I obtained a conviction against them without difficulty. I will venture to say, that every offender who ought to be prosecuted for high treason may easily be brought within this statute." Yet, said Mr. Horsman, the Government proposes to revive that 36th of George III.

The speeches lately made at meetings had but called forth a wholesome feeling among the well-regulated of the community—they may have caused some alarm, but they have caused more disgust. Unrestricted freedom is the best possible police, and no spies are needed when men publish their own designs. What did the events in Austria and Paris prove? Why, that the strength of governments and administrations did not depend upon Parliamentary majorities, but upon public opinion. The

danger which he saw at the present moment was to be found in the disregard of that truth. The Government did not sufficiently feel the importance of Parliamentary majorities, and the omnipotence of public opinion. Considering the wholesome feeling which existed in the country, he could not understand why such a panic should prevail, or why the Government should call upon Parliament to pass a measure which Mr. Pitt in the zenith of his power did not venture to press, and which Lord Castlereagh in the height of his unpopularity did not dare to propose. However, as the noble lord now proposed to give a temporary effect to that part of the measure which related to words spoken, he might not be indisposed to withdraw his opposition to it ["No, no!" from Members around].

Mr. SAMUEL MARTIN said, he would take the decision of the Committee on the point that the words "open and advised speaking" be struck out.

He went at much length into the legal bearings of the question turning on these words; and gave his professional testimony that no confidence whatever should be put in accounts of conversations heard. Even in the case of short-hand writers, his experience presented cases over and over again wherein persons had been misrepresented by short-hand writers. Judge after judge has made the same complaint; and one of the ablest of those now on the bench has avowedly objected to short hand writers' notes of legal proceedings, because of the frequency with which his jury charges have been misreported. If this were the case in the stillness of a law court, what might be expected in the confusion and excitement of a public meeting? With regard also to the discrimination of juries, he entertained a high opinion of that tribunal for the determination of matters of fact under ordinary circumstances, but had no reliance on a panic-stricken jury. "Only think of a jury empanelled on Monday last! He thought that the Government were justified in all the precautions they took on that day; but he would as soon have asked for the opinion of a parcel of insane men as have taken the verdict of a jury on Monday last upon words spoken."

He proposed a clause—that if any person, at any assembly of twenty persons or more, should by public and advised speaking suggest, advocate, or advise the three matters in the third section of the bill, it should be made a misdemeanour: this was already so at common law, but it would be useful to define the offence particularly, for the guidance of parties liable to commit it. He would also agree to a clause prohibiting bail in those particular cases, if there were also a provision that a trial should take place—by a special commission, if necessary—within a month after arrest. Thus, the old common law distinction between words spoken and written would not be broken down. He felt strongly on this point; and would in relation to it ask Lord John Russell to do for his sincere friends what Mr. Pitt had in 1795 done for his opponents.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL and Sir FREDERICK THESIGER replied to Mr. Martin's legal arguments; and Mr. W. P. Wood supplied some corrections which he thought each legal speaker needed.

Mr. Wood rejoiced at the concession that the measure would be temporary only. He hoped the day was at hand when Parliament would no longer treat the symptoms only of prevailing disease, but the disease itself; that large remedial measures would be introduced for Ireland; and that the meetings of Chartists, and the wretched and ferocious stuff there spoken, would be put down by extending the franchise, and giving the occupation of choosing members of Parliament, instead of members of a National Convention.

Mr. AGLIONBY'S constitutional objections to the bill grew stronger than at first; but he would be content with stating his reasons for supporting Mr. Horsman's amendment. [Mr. Horsman's amendment had never been moved, and was already abandoned.]

Mr. MAURICE O'CONNELL, Mr. GRATTAN, and Mr. REYNOLDS, declared their little faith in Dublin juries. On one memorable political trial there, a learned gentleman had advised the Attorney-General to include in the indictment a count charging witchcraft, for the jury would still find a verdict of guilty. Mr. GOGAN maintained the uprightness of Dublin juries; but offered to the last three gentlemen to support a clause that political trials should take place in England, if they would propose it.

On Lord JOHN RUSSELL'S proposal, the House resumed, and progress was reported. Sir GEORGE GREY having proposed to proceed again with the bill at twelve o'clock next day, Mr. HUME, Mr. MUNTZ, and Mr. PEARSON, objected to such haste. Mr. BRIGHT said it should be borne in mind, that on Monday night, when Government had so large a majority on the second reading, there really was a House of Special Constables—a majority of the House had been conservators of the peace on that day [great cheering].

Mr. MOWATT moved the adjournment of the debate till Monday; and was seconded by Mr. FAGAN, who continued to speak, amidst groans and interruptive noises, till six o'clock arrived. THE SPEAKER then adjourned the House, under its standing order, without putting any question to the vote.

The House of Commons met on Friday at noon, and after the disposal of some minor business, proceeded with the Crown and Government Security Bill. There was a long discussion, or rather series of discussions, on the motion to go into committee, and on several clauses of the bill; but the objections and the arguments on both sides, were of precisely the same nature as those already canvassed with so much perseverance. The distinguishing characteristic of the proceeding was the unflinching support that Government received from an overwhelming majority. The motion for going into committee was affirmed by 287 to 33; Mr. MOWATT'S amendment on the third clause, to omit the words "by open and advised speaking," was negatived by 188 to 79; Mr. HUME'S motion to report progress—far on in the night—was negatived by 305 to 48; Mr. WAKLEY'S motion to the same effect, by 270 to 39; the third clause was carried by 242 to 50; the fourth clause, authorizing a plurality of charges, by

221 to 33. The remaining clauses were adopted; the bill to be reported on Monday.

In the discussion of the third clause, Sir GEORGE GREY moved the following proviso as an addition; but it was obstinately contested on various grounds, and ultimately postponed—

Provided always, and be it enacted, that no person shall be prosecuted by virtue of this act for any words spoken, unless information of such words be given upon oath to one or more justice or justices of the peace within three days after such words spoken, and the prosecution of such offence be within three months after such information and within two years after the passing of this act; and that no person shall be convicted by virtue of this act for any such words spoken but by the oath of two creditable witnesses.

Some amusement was created when Mr. HUME having made his motion three times without its being noticed from the chair, exclaimed, "Why do you not put the motion? Are you asleep, Sir?" Mr. BURNAL replied, that it was not competent for him to get up until Mr. Hume had sat down. Mr. HUME said, he had sat down twice. Without further remark, the chairman put the question. Mr. PHILIP HOWARD hoped that Mr. Hume would retract the observation he had made; but the further progress of this solemn question was lost in a roar of laughter.

The House adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock—having sat fourteen hours.

The report on the Crown and Government Security Bill was brought up and received on Monday.

Mr. ADELPHY thereupon moved a clause making "open and advised speaking" in certain cases, a nonbailable misdemeanour, and rendering the parties convicted of it liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding two years, instead of to transportation, which clause he wished to have added to the bill, and which was read a first time. On the motion that the clause be read a second time, the Attorney-General objected to it, whereupon the House divided, and the numbers were:—For the second reading, 50; against it, 117; majority against, 67. The clause was therefore rejected.

Sir W. CLAY then moved a clause empowering a magistrate, before whom a party should be charged a second time, in respect of seditious words, to refuse to admit such party to bail on the second or subsequent offence. The clause was brought up and read a first time.

On the motion that it be read a second time, Sir G. GREY objected.

Mr. BRIGHT supported the clause, expressing his surprise that the Government should wish to pass a law which was much more stringent than the exigency of the case required.

The House, after some further conversation, divided, and the numbers were:—For the second reading of the clause, 39; against it, 83; majority against, 44. The clause was therefore rejected.

Sir G. GREY then moved the Government proviso to clause 3, the substance of which had been agreed to on Friday night. It was read a first and second time, after which, Mr. WALPOLE proposed a verbal amendment, which was agreed to by the Attorney-General, and inserted into the clause.

Mr. WALKLEY moved an amendment to the effect that the warrant should be issued forthwith by the magistrate against the party charged on the deposition being made against him, instead of within ten days after the making of the deposition, as provided for in the proviso. After some desultory discussion the House divided, and the numbers were:—For the amendment, 30; against it, 142; Majority against, 112. The proviso was then added to the bill.

Mr. BRIGHT subsequently proposed an amendment to the effect that no indictment should be preferred under the act without the previous authority in writing of her Majesty's Attorney-General for England or Ireland, or the Lord Advocate of Scotland, as the case might be. On this amendment a division took place, the numbers being:—For the amendment, 49; against it, 170; majority against, 121.

Captain HARRIS then proposed a clause declaring pikes illegal weapons, enabling Government to seize them, and to prosecute those who sold or manufactured them for a misdemeanour. Sir G. GREY objected to the clause, as introducing matter not pertinent to the bill. The attention of the Government was daily and hourly given to the subject adverted to, and he trusted that the honourable and gallant gentleman would withdraw his proposal. The motion, after a little banter between Mr. HUME, Lord J. RUSSELL, and Mr. DISRAELI, was withdrawn.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and the third reading was fixed for Tuesday, the House to meet at twelve o'clock.

THE JESUITS.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, Lord REDESDALE put a question to the Lord President of the Council with regard to the permission and license given to foreign Jesuits to settle in this kingdom, and moved for a return showing the number of Jesuits who had applied for such permission.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied, that it was undoubtedly true, that all Jesuits are required by law to apply for such license; but, in point of fact, ever since the Emancipation Act, in no instance had such license been applied for; and he must say, that Government had no official knowledge of the existence of such a body in this country!

Lord BRAUMONT agreed with Lord Redesdale, that it would be for the benefit of the world if the Society of Jesuits did not exist ["Hear, hear, hear."] He must say, however, that the reason why the Jesuits were excluded from almost all the

countries of Europe was not their being in favour of innovations, or republicanism, or liberal measures, but was rather in consequence of their being too much connected with the aristocratic faction.

The motion was withdrawn.

THE BUSINESS OF PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on Friday night, Lord STANLEY introduced a bill with the object of improving the mode of conducting public business in Parliament:—

He described the hindrances which obstruct the progress of legislation in Parliament, in the earlier part of the session—the lamentable facility of diction in the other House, until it is checked by the hot weather; the custom of immensely protracting debates; the amount of legislative improvements expected from the hands of Government; the tendency of Ministers to alter bills for the purpose of conciliating opposition; the incoherent amendments, which make it only matter of wonder when bills escape from committee in decent English. Thus it is that measures, like *Richard*, are

"Sent before their time

Into this breathing world scarce half made up,

And that so lamely and unfashionably,"

that if dogs do not "bark," lawyers *carp* at them; and judges, forced to make sense where no sense is, find that at the conception

"Chaos sat supreme,

And by decision more embroiled the fray."

There is less "discussion" on Scotch bills, and Scotch business bears a far larger proportion to Scotch speaking than is the case with English business.

Of ninety-one printed bills (excluding routine bills and private bills), brought to the Lords from the Commons in 1845, there were sent up in February, 1; in March, 5; in April, 12; in May, 4; in June, 9; in July 69; in August, 1. Of 79 bills in 1846, the number that came up by the end of June was 28; July 15; in August, 36. In 1847, of 97 bills, 2 came up in January; in February, 6; in March, 7; in April, 10; in May, 15; in June, 28; in July, 29—48 passed within the last six weeks, 28 were sent up within the last three weeks. The hasty legislation causes errors; after the passing defects are discovered; and it is necessary to introduce acts to amend acts.

Objections exist to the introduction of bills in the House of Lords, especially the jealousy and privileges of the Commons. It may be a question whether the Speaker and his Committee of Advice might not usefully consider how far the privileges of the Commons could be relaxed in that respect.

But to prevent this drought of business in the House of Lords at the beginning of the session, and this deluge at the latter part, Lord Stanley proposed, what he admitted to be an innovation. It was, to grant to that House, of course by an act of Parliament, the power, when they saw fit, upon the receipt of a bill passed by the other House of Parliament, and previously to the reference of the bill to a committee of their Lordships' House, to adjourn the consideration of the measure from the period of the session at which they could not deliberately enter upon its consideration, to an early day to be named at the commencement of the next session of Parliament; and that the House should then be permitted to proceed with the bill as if the prorogation had not intervened, and as if the bill had just been sent from the other House of Parliament. He would also venture to suggest, that with respect to all measures so postponed, their Lordships might have the power of referring them to some competent legal adviser for the purpose of examining their technical phraseology, and the bearing which one clause would have upon another, as well as their bearing upon other acts, and more especially recent acts of Parliament; thus furnishing their Lordships with a legal report upon the bearings of every bill so suspended. He would lay the bill on the table, to be considered during the Easter recess.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE expressed perfect concurrence in the principle of the measure. So did Lord BROUGHAM and the Duke of RICHMOND. Lord REDESDALE was much alarmed at the innovation.

The bill was read a first time.

THE ALIEN BILL.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved the second reading of this bill on Thursday, with some further explanations. He said it had been found necessary that such a power as that to be conferred by the bill should be lodged somewhere. The Executive would be enabled to exercise discretion in the removal of foreigners from this country; acting not with reference to the conduct of the individuals elsewhere, but with reference to their conduct here. The power would be exercised by the Home Secretary.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH only objected to the bill that it did not go so far as the last Alien Act. Aliens were required to present a passport, and make a declaration under the act of 1836; the only penalty if they failed to do so being a fine of 40s. But there would be no means of executing this measure, unless the most stringent provisions were introduced in reference to passports and registration. Under the last Alien Act, the arms of aliens might be seized; aliens might be directed to land at particular places; passports might be refused; aliens might be committed; magistrates might require production of passports. What the noble lord proposed was but a fractional part of that act. The bill would be utterly inoperative unless the number of aliens could be ascertained.

Earl GREY admitted that the present measure would not secure a complete register of all foreigners; but he feared that a system of registration could not be devised which should be complete and yet not interfere with the ordinary affairs of life and the ordinary pursuits of persons who have no criminal intentions. He believed, however, that the bill would give quite sufficient power to protect the country from the abuse of hospitality by foreigners who endeavour to stir up civil strife.

The bill was supported by Lord STANLEY and the Duke of RICHMOND, though they regretted it was not more efficient; and by Lord DENMAN, who regretted that it should be necessary. Lord DEN-

MAN, however, must say that, in his opinion, none of these bills ought to be dealt with in periods of excitement, disturbance, and alarm; but that, in a time of peace, the Government and Parliament ought to consider what was the best mode of governing the country when any outbreak should arise.

The bill was read a second time and passed through committee on Monday.

CRIME IN IRELAND.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH followed up a motion for a return of the number of arms registered in Ireland between the 14th of March and the 14th of the present month, by referring to an article in the *United Irishman* calling upon the people to arm, with the view, when the system of organization was complete, of plunging them in the heart's blood of their enemies. If no preparation was to be made for defence while the enemy was preparing for an attack, those who wished now to aid the Government in maintaining peace and order would be disheartened, and would begin to consider, and perhaps entertain, the question of compromise, on a subject with respect to which no compromise could take place; viz., the repeal of the union. He was unwilling to press the subject too prominently forward; he only wished to know distinctly what were the intentions of the Government; and he would, therefore, conclude by putting the question of which he had given notice—viz., whether it was the intention of the Government to extend the provisions of the Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Act to the city and county of Dublin, or to bring in a measure to amend that act?

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE intimated that there could be no objection to the production of the return moved for by the noble earl, inasmuch as his object was to procure the latest information in reference to a very important subject. With reference to the question with which the noble earl concluded, he must say he thought the Lord-Lieutenant was the best judge both of the time, the place, and the mode in which the power of the Government should be put into action; and he did not think that House was the place, if any part of Ireland was to be brought suddenly under the operation of the act, in which it was consistent that such a proclamation should be announced; he thought it should come at once and direct from the Lord-Lieutenant. After referring to various exaggerated statements in reference to the condition of Ireland and the arming of the disaffected, the noble marquis said, that while he should be sorry to pledge the Lord-Lieutenant to arm all persons making application to him indiscriminately, yet that noble lord had accepted the services of a large and efficient body of persons, composed of both Protestants and Catholics, and arms had been sent over to be placed in their hands. The noble earl had alluded to a compromise, of which certain rumours had been spread abroad; and, when a compromise was mentioned, he was bound to take the first opportunity of stating that there could be none. It was the determination of her Majesty's Ministers to resist all attempts to subvert the well-governed of the country, and with the interests of which government the preservation of the Union was inseparable.

Lord BROUGHAM was of opinion that the repeal of the Union was only sought for by a very small body, who drove a pecuniary trade by advocating that measure.

THE WRIT FOR DERBY.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, Mr. EVANS moved the issue of a new writ for the borough of Derby in the room of the Right Hon. E. Strutt and the Hon. E. F. L. Gower, whose election had been determined to be void.

Mr. MACKINNON seconded the motion.

Mr. J. HANMER repeated the same objections to the issue of this writ which he had urged a few nights ago against the issue of the writ to the borough of Bewdley. He rose, however, to implore the Government to take into serious consideration the present dangerous state of things in so many boroughs; for at this moment it required, more than anything else, amendment and reform.

Mr. HUME submitted, that in the case of any borough where corruption and treating was proved to have taken place, the issue of a new writ should be suspended until the election committees had decided upon all the petitions presented against boroughs in a similar predicament, and that then a select committee should be appointed to inquire what remedy could be applied to them all. He lamented the inconsistency with which the House had acted upon this subject. In the case of Yarmouth and in that of Horsham, the writ had been suspended; but then came the case of Bewdley, where as much corruption had taken place as at Yarmouth and Horsham, and yet the House had ordered the writ to issue. Now the House had the borough of Derby, which was as bad as any other borough, before it, and was seemingly prepared to issue the writ. The election committee had made their report, he had no doubt, for the purpose of suspending the issue of the writ; and in order to carry their intention into effect, he should move that the writ for the borough of Derby should not issue forthwith.

The Earl of LINCOLN concurred in the objections to the issue of this writ so well stated by Sir J. Hanmer and Mr. Hume. He should, therefore, vote for the motion of Mr. Hume, in the conviction that, as soon as this case was brought under the notice of the Government, the Government would feel itself bound to find some remedy for such a perilous state of things.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the committee appeared to have decided that there were certain

cases in which bribery had been proved against the freemen of Derby, and that there were other cases far more numerous in which bribery more extensive had not been proved, though it was strongly suspected. He considered that so much had been stated in the report of the committee as to render it fitting that there should be a further inquiry into the corruption of the freemen of that borough. He therefore agreed with Mr. Hume that the issue of this writ ought to be stayed. He could not take up the inquiry on the part of the Government, in consequence of the multiplicity of business by which he was overwhelmed at present; but he hoped that Lord Lincoln, or some other member not burdened with the cares of office, would take charge of it. He had only taken up the case of Horsham because it appeared to be the general wish of the House that he should do so. In this case he was prepared to vote against the immediate issue of the writ, and in favour of some further inquiry, in order to give time to some individual member to declare, after due consideration, what ought to be done. At the same time some limit must be fixed to the suspension of the writ.

Sir R. PEEL expressed great satisfaction at the speech which Lord J. Russell had just made; for on reading the evidence taken in this case, he had come to the conclusion that it was quite impossible to refuse further inquiry into the bribery which had prevailed among the freemen of Derby at the last election. Having suggested the expediency of appointing by bill a commission to inquire at Derby into the extent of that bribery, he stated his intention, in case extensive bribery should be proved, of voting for the disfranchisement of those freemen.

Mr. O'CONNOR voted for the issue of the writ.

Sir J. HANMER declared himself prepared, if no other member undertook the task, to move for leave to bring in such a bill as Sir R. Peel had alluded to.

The House then divided on Mr. Hume's amendment, when the numbers were—

Ayes	199
Noes	43

Majority in its favour . . . 156

So the writ was not allowed to issue.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

Mr. J. WILSON, on Monday, said that, by letters received that morning, it appeared that the Prussian troops had crossed the Eider into the duchy of Schleswig-Holstein, which did not belong to the Germanic Confederation, and also that the Hanoverian and Brunswick troops had crossed the Elbe in order to join the Prussian forces, and to co-operate with them in suppressing the disputes between the Prussian and the Danish people. Had the noble lord received any confirmation of those letters?

Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government of her Majesty had received several communications from the Danish and Prussian Governments on the subjects in question; and he was in communication with both those powers, to whom her Majesty's Government had intimated a desire that their good offices should be employed in bringing the differences existing between the Prussians and the Danes to a satisfactory and amicable conclusion. It had been intimated to both these governments that, if the good offices of Great Britain could be of service in this respect, her Majesty's Ministers would gladly employ them. He was in hopes that this offer would be accepted. Nothing could be more deplorable than to see the peace of Europe endangered by a question of such a nature as that at issue between the Prussians and the Danes, and he entertained a hope that this danger might be averted. With respect to any intimation having been received that the Danish Government would resort to naval operations, it was most probable, if hostilities did continue, that the Danes, being strong at sea, would endeavour to cripple the Prussian commerce; but if, as he hoped, peace was maintained, the interruption to the commerce of the Elbe referred to by the hon. member would not take place. He had not received any official information of the Prussian troops having crossed the frontiers of the duchy of Schleswig in a hostile manner, but it was certainly not improbable that such an occurrence should have taken place in conformity to the information that had been received.

Mr. DISRAELI said that, by a former treaty, England had guaranteed to the crown of Denmark the integrity of the duchy of Schleswig-Holstein as part of the Danish kingdom. He wished to know whether the Court of Denmark had called upon the noble lord to fulfil this guarantee?

Lord PALMERSTON replied that the guarantee stipulated under the treaty of 1720 had been called for on the part of the Danish Government. It must, however, be recollected that the interference of the Germanic Confederation had not been offered with the view of conquest, but in order to settle an internal question that had arisen between the Danish Government and the inhabitants of Schleswig-Holstein.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINISTERS' MONEY IN IRELAND.—On Thursday, Mr. FAGAN moved that the House go into committee next Tuesday to consider the act 17 and 18 Charles II. chap. 7, with a view to repeal so much of it as relates to the provision of ministers in cities and corporate towns, and the means of supplying funds from the ecclesiastical revenues of Ireland for that provision. Mr. Fagan said that the "ministers' money" was paid principally, he might say almost entirely, by the Roman Catholic community; for there were only eight corporate towns subject to it, and in those towns the great majority of the inhabitants were Roman Catholics. The substitute which

Mr. Fagan proposed was a surplus which he presumed to accrue this year in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for Ireland. Sir W. SOMERVILLE admitted the grievance, and was ready to grant a select committee to examine into the whole subject. The motion for a select committee was, after some discussion, agreed to by 149 against 73.

PROCESSION OF PAUPERS.—Sir G. GREY, on Monday, in reply to Sir J. Y. BULLER, stated that, with respect to a threatened procession of paupers on Easter Monday, to present a petition and address to her Majesty through the Home-office, to be headed by Mr. C. Cochrane, he had intimated to that person that it would not be convenient for him to receive any deputation or address during the Easter week, since which he had received no further information from Mr. Cochrane of its being his intention to resort to such a proceeding; he therefore thought that individual might be safely left in the hands of the police commissioners.

WELSH EDUCATION.—Mr. HUME asked Sir G. Grey whether any steps were being taken to remedy the deplorable state of ignorance which the reports of the commissioners had proved to exist in some parts of Wales? Sir G. GREY said that the reports had been placed under the care of the Committee of Education of the Privy Council; the Government was very anxious to take some steps in the matter. Mr. WILLIAMS asked if the commissioners who took evidence and reported on the state of education in Wales, understood the Welsh language? Sir G. GREY said they had been assisted during the inquiry by a competent Welsh scholar.

THE EASTER RECESS.—Lord J. RUSSELL, in reference to the question of adjournment for the holidays, stated that on Wednesday (this day), he should move that the House adjourn until Saturday next, and on Saturday he should move a further adjournment until Monday, the 1st of May.

THE COPPER DUTIES.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, on Monday, moved that the House go into committee on the copper and lead ore duties. Sir C. LEMON moved as an amendment that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the effect of the existing duties on the importation and production of copper ore, the House dividing—for the original motion, 102; against it, 35; majority, 67. The House then went into committee, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER propounded resolutions for the reduction of the duties. Mr. GLADSTONE said he should not interpose his amendment for the total repeal of the duties until the House went into committee on the bill; in the meantime he wished to be informed whether the Government would be prepared to take a similar course to that now proposed with reference to tin. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, not having received any representations on the subject of tin, did not see any immediate necessity for such a reduction.—Lord G. BENTINCK moved that the Chairman report progress, when the committee divided, ayes 13, noes 77, when the resolutions were agreed to.

LANDLORD AND TENANT (IRELAND) BILL.—Sir W. SOMERVILLE moved that the select committee on Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill consist of twenty members, and to name the said committee:—Sir W. Somerville, Viscount Castlereagh, Sir R. Ferguson, Mr. Pusey, Mr. Clements, Lord Courtenay, the Lord Advocate, Mr. M. O'Connell, Mr. French, Sir J. Young, Mr. O. Gore, Mr. G. A. Hamilton, Mr. P. Scrope, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Napier, Major Blackall, Mr. W. Fagan, Mr. Monsell, Mr. Adair, Mr. M. J. O'Connell, and Dr. Power. The motion was agreed to.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE.—On Monday night, Mr. HUME gave notice, amidst loud cheers, that after the Easter recess he would call attention to the present state of the representation of the people, and take the sense of the House on that question.

THE CHINESE JUNK.—This fine specimen of the naval architecture of the "Celestial Empire" is now in the East India Dock, and is being put into a proper condition for exhibition to the curious of all classes and ages who may be desirous of beholding her and the multitude of Chinese curiosities which she is reported to contain, and which will, as we learn, be arranged for show in the spacious and highly decorated cabins, or saloons, on her main deck, and on her poop, which rises to over thirty feet above the water-mark.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—A Parliamentary return shows, that during the last six months of 1847, the accidents on railways in the United Kingdom caused the death of 110 persons, besides 74 more or less hurt. The far greater number of the fatalities were the result of incautiousness or temerity in the victims. During the half-year the number of passengers was 31,734,607.

THE ALIEN BILL.—Considerable misapprehension has, we believe, arisen in the minds of foreigners residing in this country, as to the intended operation of the "Removal of Aliens Bill," introduced into the House of Lords, on Monday last, by the Marquis of Lansdowne. The object of the proposed measure is simply to give to the Secretary of State and the Lord-Lieutenant the power to remove from the United Kingdom, by warrant under their hands respectively, aliens of disreputable character, whose presence and conduct may be deemed dangerous to the peace and social order of these realms. Under the sixth clause of this bill, it is provided that foreigners who have been domiciled and settled in this country for the last seven years, cannot in any way be affected by the act.—*Times*.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

MEETING OF REFORM MEMBERS.

A meeting of members of the House of Commons was held on Thursday, at 14, St. James's-square (the Free-trade Club), at which it was unanimously resolved—"That it appears to this meeting that a more cordial understanding and co-operation are urgently required among such members of Parliament as are favourable to the extension of the suffrage, an equitable arrangement of taxation, a reduction of expenditure, and the general advancement of reform principles throughout Great Britain and Ireland; that Joseph Hume, M.P., be chairman; that Richard Cobden, M.P., be deputy-chairman; that Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., be honorary secretary; and that the committee have power to add to their numbers."

The requisition calling the meeting was signed by the following members of Parliament:—Joseph Hume, Richard Cobden, R. Osborne, Sir William Molesworth, Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, Henry Salway, William Jackson, John Williams, G. F. Muntz, W. Fagan, George Thompson, J. Pattison, W. Ewart, W. J. Fox, T. Wakley, Right Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt, Richard Gardner, James Clay, F. Mowatt, B. Wilcox, G. P. Scrope, James Kerahaw, John Bright, James Wyld, M. Sullivan, J. P. Thompson, Lord Nugent, Sharman Crawford, John Reynolds, Wm. Scholefield, Reginald Blewitt, M. Power, John Greene, J. B. Smith, James Pilkington, Timothy O'Brien, Captain Pechell, A. Raphael, J. F. Wawn, W. P. Wood, Percy Nugent, J. P. Locke King, E. P. Bouverie, Thomas Meagher, Sir Joshua Walsley, John T. Devereux, John Macgregor, Charles Hindley, and Charles Cowan. As this meeting was only a preliminary one, the list of members in favour of such a movement is far from being complete.

Speaking of this meeting the London correspondent of the *Manchester Times* says:—

I understand that there was an unanimous agreement, not only that there should be a much wider suffrage than at present, but that the extension was required for the public safety, endangered by the discontent of the great masses excluded.

There was also a harmonious agreement that a very considerable reduction might be made in the public expenditure, without in any degree impairing the efficiency of the army and navy, merely by striking off the non-effective branches, kept up for the benefit of the aristocracy. It is known, and I do not see why the public should not be told that Cobden is of opinion that a reduction to the amount of ten millions a year might be made, and that a number of members, practical, careful-judging men, agree with him.

I also understand that the bearing of the discussion upon the adjustment of taxation was to the effect that realized property, rather than the income from labour, should bear the principle burthen, and that the transmission of land by descent should not be exempt from the impositions on the transmission of personality.

The *Manchester Examiner* says:—

There was a strong feeling shown and expressed in favour of a *Household or Rating Suffrage*, along with the Ballot, Triennial Parliaments, Electoral Districts, and the Abolition of a Property Qualification for Members of the Legislature. If the middle and working classes could cordially unite on such a basis as this, I think a strong party in Parliament could be made for it. It would give a vote to almost every working man, as well as to almost every middle class man; that is, to those who are settled in life as housekeepers, and whose residence could be readily ascertained and registered; and we should then have a fair representation of the people.

ANOTHER MEETING OF LIBERAL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS took place on Saturday, when Mr. Hume was requested and agreed to give notice of motion for an early day after Easter.—That he will bring under the consideration of the House of Commons the present state of the representation of the people.

Meanwhile the movement progresses throughout the country with almost unexampled rapidity, in spite of the odium attached to the Chartist cause, in consequence of the violence of some of their leaders, and the disclosures regarding the monster petition. We give a few examples:—

We learn from the *Bradford Observer* that the address [inserted in our last number] on the part of Liberal Electors of the borough of Bradford to the Non Electors, expressing sympathy with their claim to the suffrage, and recommending "legal, orderly, and constitutional efforts to enforce the claim," has received the signatures of a large proportion of the Liberal electors. "The address was issued on Friday with about 60 signatures: subsequently 400 electors have added their names; and it appears in our first page with 558 signatures."

The "Progressive Reform Association" met on Wednesday night, when a well-written paper was read by Mr. Sanders on "political power." The meeting was respectfully attended, and a discussion took place between members and others on the passing events of the day. Many very sensible remarks were made by the different persons who addressed the meeting on the necessity of a union of the middle and working classes. Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Smith Harris, Mr. Markham, and others, all deprecated the policy of the physical-force Chartists, and regretted that any disorder and discourtesy should have been manifested in times gone-by by some of the Chartist body towards those who differed from them in opinions, but who were nevertheless good friends as far as they went. Allusions were then made to the conduct of some members of St. Stephen's, whose zeal for the Church and the State was exhibited in such uncourteous and bear-garden in-

terruptions of Mr. Gardner and other Liberals, and showed of what manner of spirits they were of. The meeting, indeed, felt so intense a disgust at the reception Mr. Gardner had met with, that they agreed that a public meeting should be held, if possible, to support and promote the opinions held and advocated by him and his excellent colleague.—*Leicester Mercury*.

Mr. GEORGE DAWSON, M.A., amongst other parties, has issued "A Letter to the Middle Classes on the Present Crisis." The aim of the address is to recommend union with the working classes to bring about large and decided reforms, even if they come short of the People's Charter. He says:—

The Charter, I know, goes too far for some, for some too fast. Many recognise it as an ideal to be worked up to, rather than as a plan for immediate realization. My present purpose is neither to advocate nor oppose it, but to ask the middle classes, what, at this crisis, they mean to do? If you like not the "People's Charter," produce your own. Say what you want, and how far you will go. Will you take the points in detail? Draw out your list of reforms, give the nation your points. Anything but inaction and timidity. On you it depends whether we advance peacefully but quickly in the path of progress, or whether we must succumb to injustice on the one side, or anarchy on the other. Remember, reform delayed is revolution begun. A true Reform Bill would soon become to the demagogue, the brawler, and the physical-force man, a fool's-cap in which he would be hissed off the political stage. Show you are in earnest, and men will wait. A nine months' bill will be kept, if it is sure to be honoured on presentation. Organize in every locality—petition (if you will)—"pronounce." If you do not go for the Charter, say so, but say for what you do.

Inspect the following list, mark off in what you agree; let those who want little, band for that little, those who ask much, for much, those who want all, for all.

Economy. Abolition of sinecures, useless offices.
Widened Suffrage.
Ballot. Electoral Districts.
Shorter Parliaments.
A thorough revision of Taxation and Expenditure.
Direct Taxation on equitable principles.
Complete Free Trade.
Real Justice to Ireland.
Reform of Diplomatic system. No interference with the domestic affairs of other nations.
Complete Religious Equality.
Law Reform.

Try in what points you can unite with the working men. In every town meet at once to adopt all peaceful and constitutional measures to prevent the present Parliament from going to grouse, until some true reforms have been carried.

Let us insist on a change of ministry, if the present one neither can nor will move on; and when another election comes, let us put more new blood into the House. Remember the numerous members unseated in this session; think of Harwich with as much power as Manchester, and say whether we ought to be satisfied.

NOTTINGHAM.—IMPORTANT REQUISITION.—A number of our influential townsmen, says the *Notts Review*, thinking the present moment very favourable for a movement in favour of an extension of the suffrage, retrenchment in Government expenditure, &c., presented a requisition to the Mayor, requesting him to convene a meeting "where we may have an opportunity of proposing and passing such resolutions as may tend to induce Parliament and the Executive to devise and carry out such speedy and effective remedies as the distressed circumstances of a vast majority of her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects imperatively require."

THE NATIONAL PETITION.—We are informed that the memorial to the Marquis of Douro and S. M. Peto, Esq., soliciting their support of the National Petition in favour of the Charter, was signed by 319 electors of this city.—*Norfolk News*.

At a numerous meeting of the electors and shopkeepers of Bury, Lancashire, on Thursday last, the following resolution, moved by E. Grundy, Esq., and seconded by Mr. Harrison, was carried unanimously:—

That, by the laws of our country, as well as by every just social principle, every man is bound to protect the lives and property of his fellow-citizens; but we consider it a still higher obligation to obtain the redress of all public wrongs and grievances, and, above all, to procure by every legal means the admission of the labouring classes to a fair and equal share in the representation of the country.

"John Steadfast," an Edinburgh correspondent, writes as follows:—

I was delighted to perceive by your paper of Wednesday last, that the truly liberal portion of the middle classes throughout the country were judiciously taking the political agitation—hitherto almost exclusively confined to the working classes—into their own hands, with a determination to go forward calmly, but firmly, in the noble course of exterminating every vestige of class legislation.

Your readers will rejoice to hear that Edinburgh cannot be behind in raising the *People's Banner*, and once more entering with enthusiasm the field of political contest. The fears of the timid have been cunningly worked upon by our Whig rulers, but their artifices are so audaciously superficial that we have at once, and without stopping to argue the point, overstepped the barrier, and now stand on the broad ground of a full, free, and fair representation of the people in Parliament. We have, within the week, formed an *Anti-state-church Association*, under the most cheering auspices. We have within the same period, presented a requisition to our Whig Lord Provost, signed, simultaneously, by two hundred and twenty electors, calling upon his lordship to convene a public meeting for the purpose of petitioning Parliament to grant the political rights so long withheld from our unenfranchised brethren, and to consider the necessity of praying her Majesty to dismiss the present aristocratic Ministry, and substitute in their place men drawn from the popular class, such as Joseph Hume and Richard Cobden. Our worthy magistrate, of course, and as was expected, refused to preside; but Professor Dick, a long-tried friend of civil and religious

liberty, and a man respected by all for his mental independence, at once consented to take the chair. We confidently expect a large and intelligent audience.

I enclose you copies of a few of our *squibs*, which have been in active service:—

ELECTORS OF EDINBURGH!

The National Safety depends upon the immediate
DISMISSAL OF THE PRESENT MINISTRY!

All eyes should be directed to
RICHARD COBDEN!

Who will remove every just cause of Discontent, and thus restore Peace and Prosperity to the Country!

REWARD OF £2,000!!

The above sum will be paid to any one producing a specimen of that hitherto unknown animal, lately discovered by

LORD JOHN RUSSELL!

and entitled,

AN OVERWROUGHT BISHOP!!!!

Apply to Richard Cobden and John Bright.
P.S. One (if possible) who is likely to die poor preferred.

ELECTORS OF EDINBURGH!

You are no longer asleep! Think of the
LOUD LAUGHTER

Of the Aristocratic House of Commons when
JOHN BRIGHT AND RICHARD COBDEN

Proposed to take a Slice off the Enormous Incomes of our Hereditary and other Sinecurists!

PETITION FOR THE IMMEDIATE
DISMISSAL OF THE PRESENT MINISTRY, AND TRY
BUSINESS MEN OF THE MIDDLE CLASS!
BELIEVE NOT IN WHIG PROFESSIONS.

A petition, of which the following is a copy, has been numerous signed in Bridgwater:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the borough of Bridgwater,

Sheweth,—That your petitioners are oppressed by the enormous weight of taxation, it being computed that from 30 to 35 per cent. of their annual expenditure is paid directly and indirectly to the Government.

That your petitioners consider the present monopoly of the elective franchise to be unjust and tyrannical, because it excludes the great portion of the people from a voice in electing those who tax and govern them.

That your petitioners most strongly deprecate the large amount of money voted for the support of the army and navy; they complain of the waste of public money in collecting the taxes, and of its lavish expenditure on public officers; also of the unequal system of taxation.

That your petitioners see no inclination on the part of the Government to redress the grievances which occasion disaffection among the people, and as your petitioners hope to effect a peaceful reform by creating an enlightened public opinion against existing abuses, they view with alarm the introduction of a bill into the House of Commons calculated to repress free discussion, and therefore they humbly pray your honourable House not to allow any bill having such an object to become law.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.
Dated Bridgwater, April 10th, 1848.

The Birmingham reformers are starting in right earnest to form a political association. The following paper has already been signed by a large portion of the thinking men of the middle and working classes, including the leading Reformers of the town:—

The Birmingham Political League.—We, the undersigned, earnestly desire the following political changes, and hereby express our solemn determination, by all peaceful and constitutional means, to obtain the same:—Household suffrage, vote by ballot, electoral districts, and triennial Parliaments.

DERBY.—The following address from the working classes to the middle classes of this town is in course of signature. We recommend other towns to go and do likewise:—

TO THE MIDDLE CLASSES.

Fellow-Countrymen,—We, the undersigned members of the working classes, deprecate the violent policy recently advocated on our behalf.

Some of our friends of the middle classes unfairly hold the people at large responsible for all that is said by the defenders of the popular cause. A few ardent and imprudent speakers utter angry expressions, or propose harsh measures, and it is hence concluded that the great mass of orderly, quiet, hard-working Englishmen, entertain revolutionary ideas. This is a very hasty and unwarrantable inference. An overwhelming majority of our body seek their enfranchisement by peaceful means only.

Letters have been sent from the Chartists of several towns, (Derby amongst the number), to members of the Convention now sitting in London, remonstrating with them for using such violent language, and proposing such extreme measures.

Working men are now fully aware that their own prosperity is intimately connected with that of their employers. They know that a social convulsion must destroy public credit, and create general insecurity—the manufactories would be brought to a stand, and trade be suspended—and that the labouring population would be the greatest sufferers. They have therefore a strong motive for maintaining peace.

When on a late occasion fears were entertained of a disturbance, the working classes (Chartists amongst the number) came forward numerous, in London and elsewhere, to be sworn in as special constables. This fact affords decisive proof of the respect they feel for property and order.

It is true that in a few places, angry and threatening language has been used by the people. Let it be remembered, however, that in such cases they have been suffering great distress. We cannot expect starving men to be calm and reasonable. Neither is it fair to judge of their habitual character by what they say and do under their present privations.

Looking at these facts without prejudice, and without timidity, we think you must acquit us and our fellow working men, of the evil intentions attributed to us by interested parties. We think, too, that the danger arising to this country from the excitement that now

pervades all Europe, will best be met by concession; and we hope that you will see it to be your wisest policy to help us to obtain a voice in Parliament, where it will be our interest to aid in reducing the enormous burdens under which you, in common with ourselves, are labouring.

A numerous meeting of the Chartists of Hull was held on Tuesday last. The principal novelty was the presence of Dr. Gordon, who was voted into the chair, and exerted a salutary influence over the spirit of the meeting.

THE CHARTIST CONVENTION.

At the meeting of the Convention on Wednesday, it was reported that a Lambeth association of Chartists had resolved to practise a system of exclusive dealing against the special constables, to which some members of the Convention objected. Mr. CUFFAY vindicated the expedient:—

He had been some time out of work, and in consequence he had allowed Mrs. Cuffay to go out for a few days' washing [loud laughter]. At one of the places she had been in the habit of charring, she was asked the other day whether she was not the wife of Mr. Cuffay of the Convention; and when she replied in the affirmative, she was told her services would not be required after that week [shame! shame!]

Various threats of retaliation were thrown out. The member whose hat was driven over his eyes threatened that next time he should have something in his hands to defend himself with.

Arrangements were made for the election of delegates to the "National Assembly" at simultaneous meetings, to be held throughout the country on Good Friday next, and also for mapping out the country into electoral districts.

At the afternoon sitting Mr. DIXON wished the Convention to lay down some distinct line of policy by which they proposed to carry the Charter.

It was ridiculous to hear one delegate preaching the doctrine of moral force at the public meetings to which he was sent, and another declaring that there was nothing like the strong arm of physical power. If it were to be a physical force agitation, why let them all say so [hear]; but if the Convention agreed with him in thinking that the Charter would be obtained by moral agitation, why let them all agree in that doctrine, and address the people accordingly. He believed with Mr. O'Connor that much injury had been done to their cause by the effusion of a great deal of rabid nonsense, which had been spouted in the metropolis during the last six weeks, and which had been properly compared by Mr. O'Connor to "the effervescence of pop bottles." His opinion was, that neither in this nor any other country could they organize a physical organization to overthrow the Government. If such a thing had to come at all, it would come; but they must leave it to the chapter of accidents, and they only deferred its coming by talking about it [hear, hear].

Mr. LEECH moved a resolution, declaring that the Convention saw with pleasure the growing feeling among the middle and higher classes in favour of the admission of the working classes to a share in the elective franchise.

Mr. HARNBY had no objection to the motion, but he could not forget that the Government would not have dared to have brought out their police and military on Monday as they did, if they had not felt that they had the middle classes at their backs [hear, hear].

A discussion took place upon the motion, which was adjourned until next day, when, after some further discussion, it was adopted.

A long discussion ensued as to the policy, under present circumstances, of sending delegates to Ireland. It was ultimately unanimously resolved that Messrs. Kidd, Leech, and M'Grath, should, without delay, proceed as missionaries to Ireland.

Mr. ERNEST JONES ascribed to official influence that he had been arrested for a debt which he did not owe; another complained, that on Monday his hat was knocked over his eyes by a special constable; another, who had charge of the petition, that a magistrate called him a "damned ass."

At the sitting on Friday there was great discussion relative to the proceedings of the House of Commons on the previous evening, in the course of which Mr. F. O'Connor arrived and was received with enthusiastic cheers. In speaking of his difference with Mr. Cripps he said:—

He left the House because he had been insulted by Mr. Cripps, and he sent his friend Mr. Ernest Jones to the hon. member, appointing him as his friend to act for him. Mr. Cripps could not leave the House, and he had no charge to make against him for not answering Mr. Jones's note. He (Mr. O'Connor) was then served with the Speaker's order—to attend in his place. He refused to attend; and at a quarter past ten o'clock he was arrested and taken down to the House, when Mr. Cripps, he would say in a very gentlemanly manner, apologised for having used unparliamentary language and what he ought not to have used as from one gentleman to another [hear, hear]. Of all the howls, of all the bellowings, of all the badgerings—and he had heard many in that House—anything he had ever heard before was but the hissing of the dove compared with what was directed against him last night [a laugh]. He said he would move for a committee to investigate the petition again, but it was pretended that to do so would cast a slur upon the committee, and the House would not give him an opportunity of verifying the signatures and looking more closely into the allegations of the committee ["Shame"]. But he showed by collateral evidence that the petition must be as numerous signed as he had stated. The fact was, this was a Government trick. The whole thing had been done for the express purpose—and it would be cleverly done if it succeeded—of giving those who otherwise would have been compelled to vote for his motion a loophole to creep out of. He had not one single supporter in the whole House, and, when he found what was the intention of the Government, he immediately determined to place them in a more awk-

ward six than they were aware of. He stated, that from the manner in which the petition had been treated, he would not bring on his motion, or bring the petition under the notice of the House. He hoped the Convention would tell the people to inundate the House with separate petitions, not with one large petition, and that care would be taken that no filthy or brutal names should be affixed to it, by persons who were not Chartists. It served their purpose to make him answerable for the petition last night, but he trusted the people would inundate the House with petitions after Easter, and send them to be presented by the members for their respective localities.

A motion approving of Mr. O'Connor's conduct in not bringing forward his motion was carried by a large majority.

Mr. ERNEST JONES moved, that a memorial be drawn up to the Queen, praying her Majesty to dismiss her Ministers, to call into their places men who were favourable to the principles of the Charter, and to dismiss her present Parliament. Also, that the subject be brought under the notice of the simultaneous meetings to be held on Good Friday, in order to the adoption of the memorial.

Mr. O'CONNOR, in seconding the motion, said, that if ever there was a Ministry that deserved to be hurled from office for a violation of the people's constitutional rights it was the present [cheers]. And if there was any party that aided and comforted them in their designs, it was the aristocracy; and the next move they would see would be the union of the middle and working classes to destroy aristocratic privileges altogether [tremendous cheers]. There never was such a rabid press as that of this country; but of all the papers there was none so rabid against the Chartists as the *Morning Chronicle*. Now, the *Morning Chronicle* was the property of Baron Rothschild—a Jew whom the people had backed and returned at the late election, yet his paper was the most rabid against the rights of the Chartists [disapprobation, and a cry of "Shame!"]. He had voted in favour of the Jew bill as a matter of principle; but it was a question with him whether they were right in voting for the admission of the Jews into Parliament, when he saw Baron Rothschild returning them such very little service for the good they had done him [hear, hear]. It was his determination, if he could make the arrangements, to establish a daily paper for the working classes [cheers].

The motion was adopted.

The subject of the National Petition was then resumed. Mr. KYDD moved that each delegate give in a list of the number of signatures sent in to the national petition from his district, so that by examining these returns an approximation might be made to the numbers really contained in the national petition.

Mr. T. CLARK said that, admitting there were obscene and indecent names in the petition, it should be remembered that the mode of getting up public petitions was such as often to allow parties to write what they pleased. Mr. C. Clark recommended the people to show that they were men, not names, and that they were ready for action [cheers]. He was "for onwards and conquering." Nothing should deter him, and he knew Bristol would be up to back them [prolonged cheering]. Mr. DONOVAN: If the Prime Minister complains that we did not fight him on the day he made his arrangements, why perhaps we'll fight him the next day he makes his arrangements [much laughter, and great cheering]. The motion of Mr. Kydd was negatived, and a committee appointed to draw up a memorial to the Queen; the committee to consist of Messrs. Ernest Jones, Walter, and Harney.

Mr. ERNEST JONES said he would postpone his motion for a national tricolour, seeing that the motion was carried, seconded, and supported on Monday last [cheers]. He had, however, a motion to submit respecting the issue of tracts. Among the classes to whom they might thus appeal he might mention the army and navy, railway labourers and miners, and also their brethren in Ireland. He proposed that the Chartist tracts should be gratuitously distributed in some instances, and that in others they should be sold at the lowest possible prices. Mr. Jones concluded by proposing a motion in favour of the publication of Chartist tracts. Mr. CHILD seconded the motion. Mr. TATTERSALL was sure the army would not act against the people, believing their claims were just [cheers]. The motion was carried unanimously, as was another in favour of the establishment of a tract fund, towards which the sum of £1 18s. was immediately subscribed.

The Convention then adjourned.

At the sitting on Saturday Mr. STEPHENSON proposed a resolution to the following effect:—

That the daily and weekly press of London, with a few honourable exceptions, were the enemies of the industrious classes of the country, which they showed by continual misrepresentations of their views and intentions, especially the *Morning Chronicle*, from which they had a right to expect better conduct, since its present proprietor (alleged to be Baron Rothschild) had been materially assisted by the working classes in effecting the liberty of the community to which he belonged.

He felt it a duty he owed to his country to make that motion, and to include in it the infamous paper named, the proprietors of which they had been led to believe would have acted in a different manner. He thought also that the people ought to know who were their enemies and who their friends. He had no objection whatever to a fair report of the views and principles of the Convention. They had no secret to conceal, nothing to say, which they did not wish the whole world to know; but they protested against the unfair reports of the paper mentioned and of other papers.

Mr. ADAMS, in seconding the resolution, said he had been set down in the *Morning Chronicle* as one of the well-meaning and enlightened men of the Convention, and he really thought such a commendation,

coming from such a quarter, the foulest censure he could receive [hear].

Mr. DIXON, secretary to the Convention, supported the resolution, not on the ground of blaming the editors for an expression of principles clashing or finding fault with theirs. What he blamed was the misrepresentations inserted in the papers of their speeches—the insertion of speeches never uttered, and which the readers of them would receive as truth.

Mr. FUSSELL maintained that the working classes would never be fairly represented until they had a daily paper of their own.

Mr. COCHRANE said, that if they did not obtain their rights they would have to see what they should next do, and one of the things would be to destroy a press the members of which were murdering the working classes of the country.

Mr. CUFFAY said:—

I have, through the kindness of the reporters mentioning my illness, and my wife going out to wash to support me, received several invitations to dinner, and so forth. I will only read two. The first is from Colonel Sibthorp [roars of laughter], as follows:—

To Mr. CUFFAY:

If Mr. and Mrs. Cuffay have no objection to take their meals with a gentleman rather opposed to them on political questions, Colonel Sibthorp would be delighted to see them at a family dinner on Wednesday, the 19th, at 6 o'clock. Colonel Sibthorp is much pleased with Mr. Cuffay's moderation in the Convention, and will have great pleasure in making his acquaintance. Nobody dines with Colonel Sibthorp on that day but Mr. Disraeli and a gentleman from Philadelphia and his lady.

27, Chester-street, Grosvenor-square.

This is not the only invitation I have received. I will read another for self and wife:—

Dear Mr. Cuffay,—I am so sorry to see by the papers that you are in such distress. I shall be happy to give your wife a day's washing every week [immense laughter], and the scraps of my house [laughter reiterated], and I could find you some employment at a friend's house in shoe-cleaning [roars of laughter].

Yours, &c.,

HARRIETTE MARTINEAU.

14, Torrington-square.

[The reading the above letters, of course sent by way of joke by some wags to Mr. Cuffay, caused great amusement.] I dare say some of my friends would feel vexed at these things. I do not. I am not such a fool as some people take me for. I cannot agree to this motion, and shall move the previous question.

The CHAIRMAN said he had an objection to one portion of the resolution. He did not see why the *Morning Chronicle* should be particularized in it. It was not the worst paper. There were others equally bad, and therefore he hoped the gentleman who moved the resolution would strike its name out [hear]. If, hereafter, the windows of the *Morning Chronicle* office should be broken it would be traced to that resolution, and certain steps would follow. Except two papers, the press always misrepresented them, and they would be guilty of a dereliction of duty if they did not express their opinions of the whole press of the country.

Mr. CUFFAY's amendment was then put and lost, and the original resolution was carried almost unanimously.

Mr. WALTER brought up the report of a committee appointed to draw up a memorial to the Queen, praying her Majesty to dismiss her present Ministry, dissolve the Parliament, and call to her councils persons favourable to making the Charter the immediate law of the land. [This memorial is to be proposed for adoption at the simultaneous meetings to be held throughout the country on Good Friday.]

Mr. ADAMS suggested that the memorial should be signed by all the men and women favourable to the Charter, each of whom should append their residences, in order that there might be no difficulty in verifying the authenticity of the signatures [hear, hear].

Several delegates declared that the people would not sign another petition for any purpose whatever.

The CHAIRMAN recommended that the chairman of each meeting should sign the memorial on behalf of the meeting, that two tellers should be appointed to estimate the numbers present, and that each memorial should commence by setting forth the numbers of persons composing the meeting at which it was agreed to. These recommendations were adopted.

Mr. DIXON said that the news from Manchester was cheering. A committee consisting of six working men and an equal number of the middle classes had been appointed to get up meetings favourable to the principles of the Charter. A large public meeting, at which both the middle and working classes were to be present, was about to be held in the Free-Trade Hall, Manchester, to further the cause of Chartism. The middle classes in these conferences admitted that it was not the duty of the working classes to come to them, but that it was their duty to come to the working classes [cheers].

The Convention then adjourned till Monday.

THE CHARTIST CONVENTION re-assembled on Monday, when the delegates present were only about twenty in number. Mr. Clark brought forward a motion for the appointment of a committee, to prepare a report, stating the manner in which the national petition had been got up, and the signatures counted, in order to exonerate Mr. O'Connor and the executive committee from any imputation of having intentionally misrepresented their number. The discussion upon this subject occupied a considerable time, but the motion was eventually carried. A report of the Central Chartist Registration Society having been brought forward by Mr. Cuffay, and adopted, it was agreed, that as there remained a great amount of business to be done in the distribution of bills, &c., through the various districts, the proceedings should be adjourned until Wednesday morning.

We are requested to state that Henry Child, who appears at the Chartist Convention, is not "Henry Child," solicitor, 9, St. Swithin's-lane, City.

CANADA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

I think it would be well if the British papers advocating religious equality and the entire abolition of ecclesiastical extortion, amongst which yours holds a prominent rank, would take up the rights of the people in the English colonies in the discussions they lay before the reading public of Great Britain. That vigorous and growing efforts are being made to introduce the State-church system, with its soul-polluting evils, into most of the colonies, is a matter of notoriety to all who pay attention to passing events. Canada, the colony from which I write, might be considered by some as placed beyond the limits of danger in this matter, seeing we are so very contiguous to the North American republic, where the unjust encroachments of State churchism have been entirely broken up by the powerful decision of the public voice. But with regret I have to inform you that there is no colony belonging to the British Crown where more discreditable intrigues have been adopted and pursued to force a State establishment of religion on the people than this, except it be Jamaica, in the West Indies. This being the case with us in a matter deeply affecting the future peace and prosperity of the province, I respectfully solicit leave for the insertion in your paper of a short series of plain and faithful letters, embracing a view of the movements and plots of certain ecclesiastical functionaries and their abettors, who have, for many years past, greatly troubled the peace of society in this rising colony, by perseveringly attempting to set up the semblance of a State Church, and by that means make void the positive rights of the people. If I make good this allegation by indubitable facts, I hope it will induce the people of England to think of us, and care for our interests, and may perhaps draw the attention of some of the liberal members of Parliament who disapprove of coercion in religious matters more deeply to the measures brought before the imperial legislature having a bearing on Canadian affairs.

I shall confine the exposition of ecclesiastical abuses and evils in this colony chiefly to things in Upper Canada, because the lower part of the province being inhabited principally by Roman Catholics of French descent is, like other countries which reject the use of the Bible, in a state of gross darkness as to spiritual things. To aid your readers in forming a correct judgment of the facts I shall adduce, and the encroachments attempted and perpetrated, it will be needful to give a hasty sketch of general society in Upper Canada. I scarcely need to observe, previous to entering upon this, that Upper Canada is a country possessing almost unbounded natural resources. Its great extent—productiveness of soil—amazing lake coasts—advantages for ports and harbours—numerous streams and rivers—facilities for constructing railroads—vast forests of valuable timber—a climate more genial than the other British possessions in North America—these, together with other things which might be mentioned, at once point out Upper Canada as being destined to become the future home of the superabundant population of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland; but especially of the two former countries. The present population is a mixture of English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, Germans, Canadians, and those who have come over from the United States. In the country districts the number of English and Scotch greatly exceed the others, especially on the great peninsula lying between the three chief lakes, Ontario, Erie, and Huron, also to the north of lake Ontario and the river St. Lawrence, nearly as far down as the river Ottawa. This great portion of the people consists chiefly of persons or their descendants who, while in England and Scotland, were instructed in the principles of religion and civil politics held by those with whom they were connected in these countries. There is amongst them a minority who, calling themselves Churchmen, adhere to the principles of a State Church in a traditional form, and some Methodists, Free Church members, and those belonging to the Kirk of Scotland, who hold the same unscriptural tenets. But, excepting a few towns and cities, such as Kingston, Coburg, Hamilton, Woodstock, and London, where State-church pomp and puff find suitable materials to operate upon, and suitable chances to grasp the spoils of others, the great bulk of the people are opposed to State establishments of religion in a decided form.

What the Free Church so called wants to accomplish in Canada I am at a loss to know, and why that body of people assume the character of "Free" I cannot tell, acting the part they do, and have done, respecting State endowments. If they would either let go their hold of the skirts of the Establishment, or throw themselves fairly into her arms, it would be a far more consistent course than that they are now pursuing. And how the Methodists in this province can think to prosper by forsaking the principle of voluntary generosity, on which their church has acted from the beginning, and by which it has risen to be an ecclesiastical prodigy, is a mystery too deep for me to fathom. Inconsistency, however, is written on the face of the fact, that the followers of John Wesley, who was cast out, stoned, and pelted by the State Church, are now support-

ing the very system which at first would have blown Methodism to atoms, and even now only seeks its aid to strengthen its own power to continue to rob and spoil others. The greater number of Methodist and Free Church members are beginning to see into the evils attending the strange and inconsistent conduct of the ministers of both bodies, and will, I hope, compel them to give up State-church intrigues. I ought to state that all the ministers of the new connexion of Methodists are sound as an acorn in their principles on this point; and so are the ministers of the Episcopal Methodist Church. If the Free Church ministers were as enlightened as they are, it would be a great blessing to Canada, and they would have great openings for usefulness. But if they persist in supporting State endowments, their influence will soon diminish, and their church will sink, or become merged in the United Secession Church. I know it is difficult to unlearn a lesson to which we have long been accustomed to listen, especially when selfishness and the love of carnal things is bound up with them. But surely it is not too much for us to expect that the Free Church should either give up the name it now holds and take another, or else follow out, in some consistent form, the principles which induced the leaders of it to abandon the State Church of Scotland.

To give a yet more distinct view of the state of ecclesiastical parties here, and the crisis to which they have brought the public concerns of the province, I shall have to divide the religious sects into two classes—Pro-state-churchists and Anti-state-churchists, and to show how their influence has been used in a political point of view. In the first class we have the Church of England, the Scotch Kirk, the Methodist Conference of Ministers, and the Romish bishops, vicars-general, rural deans, and the common priests. Here we have the motley and heterogeneous phalanx who, flushed with hopes of victory, came forward in the support of intolerance and public robbery to aid professedly the religion of Him who said, "My kingdom is not of this world." In the second class we have the United Presbyterian or Secession Church, the Independents, the Baptists, and two minor sections of the Methodists, who promptly roused themselves to defend the ramparts of religious liberty, knowing that no considerations should induce them to let the time pass for trying fairly the power of truth and right principles.

At the time when this crisis came the reins of Government were in the hands of those who strained every nerve to assist the State-church parties. Parliament was dissolved just at the period when these conflicting influences were ready to make trial of their real strength. To inspire the State-church alliance, Government had offered to divide the property belonging to the University of Toronto, which is very large, amongst the four churches—Episcopalian or English, the Presbyterian or Scotch Kirk, the Methodists, and the Roman Catholics. Besides this they had attempted to carry a measure which would have vested the *clergy reserve lands*, consisting of countless thousands of acres, in the hands of three of these churches (leaving out the Catholics) to hold an actual title to them, to *rent, lease, or sell* them as their own freehold, held by ecclesiastical or church corporations. The division of the lands to be according to a rule of apportionment made by the Parliament of Great Britain, to the indelible disgrace, and to the far deeper injury, of this province. (Of the clergy reserves and the University I shall have to speak more at large in my future letters.) It was averred by the supporters of those infamous measures that the four churches to whom these bribes were proposed actually represented a majority of the people, and therefore it would be right to make over to them the large property above mentioned, reserving a certain pretended portion, which would never have been realized, for the support of grammar-schools, merely for the purpose of casting dust into the eyes of the electors. The four sects, to their eternal disgrace, accepted the proposal of the bribes, or more properly two whole sects, and the Methodist Conference of Ministers, and the Catholic priesthood. This was done under a vain confidence that they could turn the scales of the approaching general election in favour of the State-church Government, which had long been tottering beneath the load of its own weakness and incapacity. The Catholic bishop and the committee of the Methodist Conference sent forth each a manifesto, importing that the members of their respective churches should vote for such candidates as would engage to carry out the scheme of spoliation I have described, by which public property of immense value, given to the province expressly for public purposes, would be squandered amongst a junta of hungry and avaricious clergymen, Methodist preachers, and Catholic priests. This, I know, is using strong language, but the case requires it, and I use it not in anger, but in deep sorrow, because of the enormity that marks the wholesale delinquency which was sought to be carried out under the mask of religion. This was the position in which things stood in the noble province of Canada at the opening of the present year, only two short months ago. Nearly the whole of those holding the elective franchise were fully aware of the above glaring intrigues between the Government and the parties mentioned, so that every friend of religious

and civil liberty was loudly summoned to perform the duty devolving upon him in the choice of proper men to form the new House of Parliament. The Earl of Elgin, our Governor-General, nobly stood aloof from both the parties, positively refusing to countenance either of them, and left it in the truly British style, to be decided by the electors, unbiassed by either his name or influence, as the monarch does at home, or in England. This has secured to him unfading honour as vicegerent of our beloved Queen. All possible influence was exercised by the underlings of Government and the higher executive officials to gain a victory which to them was life, or death if it failed. The Conference committee and the Popish priests plied their oars with vigour; and the clergy of the Scotch Kirk joined "Black Prelacy," as Knox used to call the Episcopal hierarchy, to assist the Methodist preachers and their enlightened coadjutors, the Romish priests, to forge for the people of Canada the chains of ecclesiastical despotism. But the unholy and heterogeneous conspiracy has vanished like the baseless fabric of a vision; and although a wreck is left behind, it is merely a wreck of shame and disappointed avarice.

The majority in the new Parliament which has just been called together in favour of religious freedom, and against the spoliation scheme, is three to one. The University Endowment will be preserved entire for the support of a noble provincial school of literature, science, medicine, and agriculture, and the clergy reserves will be kept from the immediate grasp and control of avaricious prelates, preachers, and priests, and be dealt with as time and the interests of the province may point out. I hope they will be devoted to the education of the people and public improvements. This will be done if the people stand firm to their duty, and demand it at the hands of the Home or Imperial Government in a proper way. In the progress of this contest, which is happily, and I trust for ever, settled, another striking proof has been given of the power of an upright and enlightened press. It is to this chiefly that we have to attribute the conquest which has been gained here over intrigues, bribery, selfishness, and threats, in the recent general election. None of us looked for such an issue in favour of freedom and justice. I am deeply solicitous that those who will now be called executive to manage our affairs may act with wisdom and promptitude in redressing the evils which have, like the upas tree, shed upon Canada a blasting and deathful influence. I hope, too, that the British Parliament will watch with scrupulous care any measures which may be concocted bearing the stamp of State-church encroachment, for they may be assured by one who loves the very name of Britain that Canada is not the country in which the rights of the people in these matters are to be trifled with, if it is to remain a British colony.

Brentford, Upper Canada, March 1.

POETRY.

HURRAH—HURRAH—WE MOVE.

A TRIUMPH.

It moves—it moves—Earth hath not slept—
It crouched but for its spring;
Of silence is the thunder born,
And winters harvests bring;
It did but pale its weakness feign;
The more its strength to prove;
'Tis bounding for the goal again;
Hurrah—Hurrah—we move.

Shout—shout—the fettered might of France
Again hath rent her chain;
Ho, tyrants crouch,—St. Antoine treads
The Tuilleries again;
In majesty and might she rose
Again to Earth to prove
A nation's will can laugh at swords;
Hurrah—hurrah—we move.

Rome—Rome—once more a trumpet blast
Rings in the chainless sound;
Great thoughts again hath Genoa spoke—
Free words hath Florence found;
Palermo all her tyrant's wrath
Hath dared in arms to prove;
Free, Naples shouteth by the sea;
Hurrah—hurrah—we move.

The storm is forth—the rushing blast;
Lo, in its mighty roar
The thrones and ancient powers of wrong
Usurp the earth no more;
Ho, Prussia, where's thine iron rule?
Ho, Austria, dost thou prove
The byword of exulting man?
Hurrah—hurrah—we move.

And Poland, giant sin of time,
For thee is promise dumb!
Shouts not triumphant hope thy name?
Is not thine hour too come?
It sweeps—the rending storm sweeps on;
Lo, the free earth shall prove
Its nobler life—its chainless years;
Hurrah—hurrah—we move.

And England sleeps;—Bohemia stirs—
Stirs too the fiery Hun;
The Lombard rends the Austrian's heel,—
Milan hath freedom won;
Awake—awake—press thou too on,
First-born of Freedom prove
Thy right to lead the march of man
And teach the world to move.

W. C. BENNETT.

Osborne Place, Blackheath.

At the Woodbury Petty Sessions, on Monday, Lady Susan Bergau was appointed one of the overseers for the parish of Lympstone.—*Devonshire Chronicle.*

LITERATURE.

The History of the Revival and Progress of Independency in England, since the Period of the Reformation, &c. By JOSEPH FLETCHER, Editor of the "Select Works and Memoirs of the late Dr. Fletcher," Author of "Six Views of Infidelity," &c. Vol. III. Snow.

In this volume Mr. Fletcher brings the history of Independency down to the commencement of the Civil War. It is evident that the author does not weary of his work, but rather grows in love and zeal. The diligence and care which he has devoted to his task render his volumes a valuable record of an important history. As a popular work it is entitled to the approbation and support of those whose principles it illustrates and maintains.

England, the Civiliser: Her History developed in its Principles; with reference to the Civilisational History of Modern Europe, (America included,) and with a view to the Denouement of the Difficulties of the Hour. By a WOMAN. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

THE origin and history of this work are thus given by the authoress (whose name, as she writes anonymously, we will not mention). The possibility of remoulding society according to the principles which it maintains first occurred to her mind during the course of her inquiries and efforts in the slave question. They were matured during her labours in the popular cause in the American northern states between the years 1828 and '30. They were overshadowed in a farewell address drawn out in detail, and circulated privately at the time of the West Indian abolition, published in 1838, in two popular journals, and recently, we believe, delivered in this country in the form of public lectures. It may be justly concluded that the views propounded have been matured in the writer's mind, and we see no reason to suppose that they are not honestly and sincerely held, and given to the world with a real wish to promote the good of man.

The writer is a woman of considerable fame in America. Her abilities are unquestionable. We mean no disrespect in saying that her mind is masculine. She thinks with vigour and decision; she writes strongly, nervously, and to the point. We do not altogether admire her style. It is strange English, possessing much of Carlyle's abruptness, irregularity, and boldness, but lacking the higher qualities of his composition.

As to the principles, we can say little in the way of approval. This is the sketch of government from the beginning:—

"First, She (humanity) has passed under monarchy (*monos kratio*), the government of one. Second, Under aristocracy (*aristoi kratio*), the government of a select few. Third, Under democracy (*demos kratio*), professedly the government of the male people; in reality, what we have expounded—government by male leaders of favoured classes; as figured to be leaders of the male people. Until now finally, from her utter inability to support the ever-increasing number of her male governors, she seems constrained, as by necessity, to take government into her own collective hands, and thus to present a panocracy (*pani kratio*), the government of all. In this, as all will govern, and consequently, none remain to be governed, government must change its object, its subject, its principles, and its nature. Or, to speak more correctly, government will cease to be, and the human family, in its state of a panocracy, will exhibit the world in federation, and all human affairs under administration."

We cannot give a fuller view of the writer's ideas. She advocates communism as the great cure of social evil. Government is a futility and a vice. Capital is a sore oppression. The "three saviours of our race" are "science, industry, and woman!" Believing that the theory developed is radically false, we cannot discuss its merits in the form of a brief notice of a book. Our impression is, that it prevails to a considerable extent, and that many parties, suffering from the severe grievances of existing institutions, are bent on its application. It will have to be examined more minutely and seriously than has been the wont; we trust the examination of it will suffice to save us from the experience of its unsoundness. One of the greatest demands of the present day is the spread of true notions of political economy among the community. Nothing else can save us from wretched processes of bitter experiment.

What is the Pope? or, One of the Motives why the Subjects of Great Britain will not have intercourse with the Bishop of Rome. By ANGELO TACCHELLO, T.C. London: Partridge and Oakley

FOR the most part occupied with sensible reasoning against the pretensions of the Popedom. As to the question of intercourse with the Pope, we cannot discuss it here.

Sketches of Primitive Methodism. Compiled by T. CHURCH. Second Thousand. London: Ward and Co. Pp. 127.

"CONVINCED," says the writer in the preface, "of the injury sustained by our beloved connexion from the prevalence of ignorance respecting the character and origin of Primitive Methodism, the compiler prepared these 'Sketches,' anticipating from their publication, if not a removal of, yet an antidote to, the alleged evil." How far the anticipations of the writer have been realized we are not competent to say; but to those who wish to know somewhat concerning the subject of which it treats, we think we cannot do better than recommend this work. It presents, in a compact and cheap form, most of the information for which the inquirer will be in search.

GLEANINGS.

In Trafalgar-square, London, on Monday evening week, a Frenchman harangued a crowd of Englishmen, accusing them of "want of pluck." A butcher's lad, laying down his tray, thrashed the libeller!

Among other curious consequences of the French revolution, is the stoppage of the usual visits of English buyers of fancy-goods and copiers of spring fashions, in the mysterious arts of millinery and dress-making.

The *Welshman* says of your true Young Irelander: "Of all the dishes that belong to the cuisine, he reminds us most of 'Bubble and Squeak.'"

Catchpennies, rather more than usual, were in demand in Paris on Monday. One gave, by anticipation, a programme of Monday's Chartist arrangements, "being the first day of the English revolution!" Another detailed the Queen's flight to "Ausablebourne," from which bourne, it was intimated, she would never return!

The *Barbadian* states that "the great catch of flying-fish (along the coasts of Barbadoes) has been a great blessing to the people."

The *New York Sun* states that the European Association for propagating the Roman Catholic faith in America have granted to the missions, this year, the sum of 211,410 dollars.

There is at present in a garden at Deadman's Hurst, belonging to Bailie Smyth, a mavis nest, with four young ones, which are fully fledged, and will be able to "fend for themselves" in a day or two.—*Dumfriess Courier*, April 11.

It is proposed in the *Times* to provide substantial dinners of roast beef and plum pudding, about Easter, in the different wards in London for the working men who acted as special constables on Monday last. Would not the rights of citizenship be a more suitable boon?

The *American Sun* says:—"The son of an English nobleman is said to have become a colporteur of the Bible Society, and to be labouring in Mexico with the consent of the Catholic clergy."

The *Albany Knickerbocker* (March 25) says the weather was so cutting on Wednesday that one genius had a slice of it fitted into a handle, and used it to shave himself with.

The average number of volumes annually added to the Royal Library at Paris is stated to be 12,000; to that of Munich, 10,000; of Berlin, 6,000; of Vienna, 6,000; of Petersburg, 2,000; the Ducal Library of Parma, 1,800; the Royal Library of Copenhagen, 1,000; and to the Library of the British Museum, 30,000.

In tracing the Chartist itinerary by anticipation, the *Debates* of Saturday week made the procession march through "the great place called the Elephant and Castle."—Another French paper a little while ago spoke of the crowded shipping from all the world moored off the grand reach of the river—the Strand.

"The legislatures of Kentucky and Connecticut," says the *New York Sun*, "are competing for the honour of granting the most divorces. At the last accounts Kentucky was a little ahead, thirty couples being by law unmarried in one day."

We learn from the *John o'Grout Journal* that Mr. Shanks, of Buckie, at a late missionary meeting, said that there are, in the Highlands and islands of Scotland, 120,000 persons, who had no more than thirteen ordained ministers altogether, and the great majority of these desired to be taken under the care of the Free Church.

A TELEGRAPHIC BLUNDER.—The erroneous report of the abdication of the King of Prussia may be thus accounted for:—The magnetic interpreter at the telegraph is a politician, and considerably interested in foreign affairs. Late events have considerably excited him, and news from France had been so extraordinary that there is not anything which his excited mind does not anticipate on the first word of communication. The telegraph, after due warning the other day, said, "The—King—of—Prussia." The reader turned pale, and thought of the morning paper that had offered the highest price for early and exclusive intelligence. The dial proceeded, "The—King—of—Prussia—has—gone—to—Pot." In another minute the communication was on its way to the newspaper office. Not long after, however, the dial was agitated, and then came "adam," making it read thus:—"The King of Prussia has gone to Potsdam."—*Scotch Reformers' Gazette*.

THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE.—A Mohamedan priest, of idle and lethargic habits, was one day called upon, according to the custom of the country, to give an address to the people. Getting up he asked them if they knew what he was going to say. They replied in the negative. "Then (said he) you are one and all a pack of fools for bringing me here, and that is all I have got to say." Three years after, being called upon to deliver the annual sermon, he asked, "if they knew what he was going to say this time." They replied, "Yes." "Then (said he), if you know, there is no use in my telling you." However, the people were determined to be up with him; and the next time when he got up to speak, he asked them, "Did they know what he was going to say now?" Thinking they had caught him, they replied, "Some of us do, and some of us do not." "Then (said he) let those who know inform those who do not."—*Rev. Mr. Graham on Palestine*.

EFFECT OF SEWERAGE WATER.—The following has been sent us by a correspondent:—"The Fleet ditch joins the Thames on the west side of Blackfriars-bridge, and the sewer is carried out to the first pier below low-water mark in timber work. When the tide is low, children run out upon it, and the surge from steamers sometimes carries one of them away through the bridge, and past the floating pier. The policemen say that out of ten children whom they have rescued, nine have died, and one is a cripple, which circumstances are attributed to their having been poisoned by the liquid matter running out of the sewer."—*Journal of Public Health*.

THE QUEEN'S ADVERTISEMENT.—IG-NOBLE DUKES.—The following queer advertisement appeared in the *Times* a few days since:—"To persons of liberal opinions, who may have a few hundreds which they are anxious to dispose of advantageously.—A gentleman, who has been weak and credulous enough to lend a certain noble and ig-noble duke above £20,000, for which he at present holds his overdue and worthless paper, and who has

£100,000 due to him from other members of the aristocracy, some of which are good and in present course of payment, but three-fourths of which are as valueless as the noble duke's, has just now occasion to borrow from £1,000 to £3,000 for a few months, for which he can give ample security and very liberal interest; but no application will be noticed excepting from principals, with real name and address. It may seem strange that in such a position the writer should have any difficulty in borrowing this sum, but when he adds that he is confined to his house by illness and incapable of moving, the surprise may perhaps cease.

"When a cap amidst a crowd is thrown,
He whom it fits may take it for his own."

Address to Q.Q.Q., at 2, Portland-place North, Clapham-road, Surrey."

BIRTHS.

April 3, the wife of the Rev. S. ELDRIDGE, Brixton, Surrey, of a daughter.

April 15, at Brunswick-villa, St. John's Wood, the wife of H. THOMPSON, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

April 5, by licence, at the Baptist Chapel, Soham, Cambridge-shire, by the pastor, the Rev. J. Cooper, Mr. SAMUEL BROWN, of Cowlinge, to Miss SARAH JOHNSON, second daughter of the late Mr. J. BLACK, of Soham.

April 6, at the Congregational Chapel, Kentish-town, by the Rev. W. Forster, the Rev. A. J. JACARD, pastor, Charleroi, Belgium, to Miss MARIE LOUISE NEUWILLER, Brussels.

April 8, at the Tabernacle, Carmarthen, by the Rev. J. S. Hughes, Swansea, the Rev. H. W. JONES, pastor of the chapel, to Mrs. WATKINS, Llanmas-street, Carmarthen.

April 11, at Zion-hill Chapel, Tisbury, Wilts, by the Rev. A. Tyler, Mr. JOHN BEWSEY, of Horsington, Somerset, to Miss HINCHARD, of Tisbury.

April 11, at Foleshill Independent Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Styles, Mr. THOMAS RICHARDSON to Mrs. ELIZABETH WYKES, both of Foleshill.

April 13, at Plaistow, Essex, HENRY FORD, son of F. BARCLAY, Esq., of Walthamstow, Essex, to RICHENDA LOUISA, youngest daughter of S. GURNEY, Esq., of Ham-house, Upton, in the same county.

April 13, at the Independent Chapel, Nicholas-street, Ipswich, by the Rev. J. Whitby, the Rev. R. DAVEY, of Ripley, Hants, to ANNE, second daughter of Mr. J. CULLUM, of Ipswich.

DEATHS.

March 2, at Montreal, Canada, aged 42, EADY, the beloved wife of George FULTON, Esq., eldest daughter of the late Isaac Booth, Esq., of Hackney, and granddaughter of the late Rev. Abraham Booth.

April 9, at Dolgelly, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian resignation, in his 37th year, Mr. EVAN PUGH, late of Liverpool.

April 10, at Great Missenden, in her 13th year, AMELIA, the youngest daughter of the Rev. G. ASHMEAD.

April 12, at Newton-le-Willows, aged 42, MARION, wife of the Rev. R. MASSIE, Independent minister, of that place. Her end was peace.

April 13, at Camden-town, in her 26th year, EMILY, the wife of the Rev. J. E. JUDSON, of Lindfield.

April 14, at Newport, MARY ANN, the very dear wife of Mr. R. YOUNG, Ventnor, I. W., and third daughter of the late Mr. R. Dixon, of Felstead Mills, Essex.

April 16, at Compton-terrace, Islington, in her 81st year, Mrs. PROCTOR, relict of the late J. Proctor, Esq.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The settlement of the Account was effected on Thursday, and passed off remarkably well, although the variation during the six weeks had been from 90 to 80, with intermediate fluctuations daily, which, taken into calculation, would probably exceed 100 per cent. Not a single defaulter was announced in the market. On Friday Consols were at 82½ to 82¼. The value of Bank Stock has been higher during the past week, and the Unfunded Debt has been supported. The dividends have been in course of payment, but very little of the surplus has been re-invested.

The changes that occurred last week in the assets and liabilities of the Bank of England were more considerable than for some time previously, arising in part from the close of the financial quarter, and from the excitement that has prevailed at home and abroad. The diminution of bullion was £600,000. The great reduction in the *Rest* arises from the appropriation for the dividend on the capital of the proprietors. As to the discount business of the bank, it is still diminishing apparently.

The foreign exchanges are very irregular still, and there is great difficulty in negotiating bills. This necessitates the transmission of specie from one country to another; and hence, although we are likely to receive the precious metals from Russia and various other parts, the insurances being already effected, as is stated, at Lloyd's, the exports from London have, during the past week, been considerable, by far the larger proportion being to Holland and Belgium, and in payment, probably, of securities bought there at most depreciated values.

MONDAY.—The English Stock Market was generally dull and heavy to-day. Consols, which closed on Saturday at 81½ to 82½, were first done at 82 to 81½ this morning, but soon declined to 81½, at which quotation they remained quiet for a time, and finally left off at 81½ to 81, being a decline of ½ per cent. from Saturday's prices.

TUESDAY.—The Consol Market is rather better supported, in consequence of the more favourable interpretation put upon the Paris advices, although these are rather counterbalanced by the intelligence from Denmark. There is again a temporary scarcity of stock for present delivery, and Consols have been up to 82½ for money, but not higher than 82½ for account. The present quotations are 81½ to 82½. Exchequer Bills have improved to 41s. and 44s. premium. Bank Stock is 186 to 189. The New 3½ per Cents. have been 81½ to 81½.

The value of all Foreign Stock is improving. There is not, however, much business transacting.

Railway Shares have likewise very materially improved. The average advance since Monday week in

the heavy-priced lines is about £3 to £6 per share. The market is firm, with little doing.

The mercantile advices from Hamburg are very unsatisfactory. Several failures have occurred, and more are expected. The list at present includes Elias Warburg; M'Lean and Co.; Joseph Heine and Sons; Sampson, Brothers; and Baarch and Co. Letters from Mon to-day announce two failures, Delvaux and Co., bankers; and Tondeur, contractor. The advices from Amsterdam report a large rise in the price of the public funds, with an active state of business on the Bourse.

The foreign advices are written in much the same strain as for some time past, and there is but little expectation indulged that commercial affairs abroad will improve. The numerous suspensions not only in France but also in Germany, Holland, &c., are calculated to show the severe pressure that exists.

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, April 14.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

DAVIS, WILLIAM, Abercrombie, Monmouthshire, tin-plate manufacturer, April 13.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

STURT, GEORGE, St. Albans, out of business.

BANKRUPTS.

BRIDGES, JOHN FITZHERBERT, late of Hawkesbury, Gloucestershire, but now of Sherston Magna, Wiltshire, innkeeper, April 27, May 25: solicitors, Messrs. White and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. R. J. Bridges, Bristol.

BROWN, JOHN BENSON, Newcastle-under-Lyme, wine merchant, April 25, May 23: solicitors, Mr. T. Llewellyn, Tunstall; and Mr. J. Smith, Birmingham.

BURLS, EDWARD, 18, Langley-place, Commercial-road East, baker, April 27, May 24: solicitors, Messrs. Young and Son, Mark-lane, London.

BALL, ANDREW, Wells, Somersetshire, innkeeper, May 5 and 26: solicitors, Mr. Hobbs, Wells; and Mr. Whitaker, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

BROWN, JOHN, Manchester, carpet dealer, May 1 and 22: solicitors, Messrs. Atkinson, Saunders, and Atkinson, Manchester; and Mr. J. Abbot, 46, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

COUTTS, JOHN, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, iron ship builder, May 3, June 2: solicitors, Messrs. Williamson and Hill, 10, Great James-street, Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Bates and Dee, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

CARTER, JAMES, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridgeshire, grocer, April 29, June 3: solicitors, Mr. T. Smith, 15, Furnival's-inn; and Mr. F. Barlow, Cambridge.

DAWSON, WILLIAM ISAAC, 12, Lime-street, City, cigar merchant, April 28, May 26: solicitor, Mr. R. Cattarns, 28, Mark-lane, City.

DAVIS, STEPHEN, and TROGER, ADOLPHUS, York, furriers, April 27, May 26: solicitors, Mr. Ivimey, Chancery-lane, London; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

DAVIES, HENRY, and DAVIES WILLIAM, Liverpool, stock-brokers, April 25, May 19: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent, Temple, London; and Messrs. Little and Bardsell, Liverpool.

ESSEX, WILLIAM, Manchester, stockbroker, April 26, May 17: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory, Faulkner, Gregory, and Skirrow, Bedford-row, London; and Mr. C. Cooper, Manchester.

GOODWIN, JAMES MOTTRAM, Ashton-under-Lyne, grocer, April 28, May 19: solicitors, Messrs. Milne, Parry, Milne, and Morris, Temple, London; and Mr. Sutton, Manchester.

HAMMON, JOHN WILLIAM, 11, Seckford-street, John-street-road, watch-case manufacturer, April 26, May 26: solicitor, Mr. J. Spyers, 30, Broad-street-buildings, City.

HOWDEN, GIDLEY, Pump-row, Old-street-road, patent stove manufacturer, April 24, May 29: solicitor, Mr. Sutcliffe, New Bridge-street.

IRWIN, THOMAS HASTINGS, Liverpool, stockbroker, April 26, May 16: solicitors, Mr. Vincent, Temple, London; and Messrs. Little and Co., Liverpool.

JOWETT, HENRY, Birmingham, tailor, April 26, May 27: solicitor, Mr. J. R. Bloxham, Birmingham.

KRILAR, GEORGE, Liverpool, timber merchant, April 25, May 19: solicitors, Messrs. Chester and Co., Staple-inn, London; and Messrs. Davenport and Collier, Liverpool.

KERSHAW, SAMUEL, Charlston, Derbyshire, cotton spinner, April 26, May 17: solicitors, Mr. J. E. Fox, 40, Finsbury-circus, London; and Mr. W. H. Higginbottom, Ashton-under-Lyne.

OSBORN, WILLIAM HESKIN, Sheffield, wine merchant, April 29, May 27: solicitors, Messrs. Capes and Co., Gray's-inn, London; and Mr. Fenton, Sheffield.

SMITH, HENRY THOMAS, and HEWITT, JOHN, Liverpool, tailors, April 25, May 19: solicitors, Messrs. Holmes and Co., London; and Mr. J. Yates, Jun., Liverpool.

TRIGGS, JAMES, Southampton, upholsterer, April 28, May 26: solicitor, Mr. G. Fitch, 23, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury.

WATKINS, WILLIAM PITT, Long Ashton, Somersetshire, elder merchant, April 28, May 30: solicitor, Mr. Hassell, Bristol.

WINTERBOURNE, JOHN, Oxford, builder, April 26, May 26: solicitors, Messrs. Staniland and Long, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

WYLES, THOMAS, Gloucester, grocer, April 27, May 25: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., Crosby-square, London; and Mr. J. Harvey, Gloucester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

M'CORKLE, DANIEL, Glasgow, shipowner, April 19, May 9.

RAID, ROBERT, Denny, baker, April 20, May 11.

RUSSELL, HENRY ROBERT, Dunfermline, bank agent, April 20, May 11.

STREEDMAN, WILLIAM, Leith, merchant, April 19, May 10.

WILSON, WILLIAM, late of Newton Ayr, but now of Ayr, merchant, April 19, May 18.

DIVIDENDS.

William Reeve and R. Reeve, 93, New Bond-street, upholsterers, first div. of 3s. 3d.; at 7, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, April 15, and two subsequent Saturdays.—James Bell, 16, Finch-lane, Cornhill, newsvender, first div. of 3s. 6d.; at 7, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, April 15, and two subsequent Saturdays.—William Day, 95, Gracechurch-street, oilman, first div. of 7d.; at 7, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, April 15, and two subsequent Saturdays.—Richard Ensell, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, draper, second div. of 9d.; at 12, Birch-lane, April 17, and two following Mondays.—John Ellis, Jun., Woolwich, boot maker, first div. of 1s.; at 12, Birch-lane, April 17, and two following Mondays.—Stephen Davies, Bankside and Wilton-street, Pimlico, corn merchant, second div. of 1d.; at 12, Birch-lane, April 17, and two following Mondays.—Robert Peck, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer, first div. of 8s. 6d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday.—Sampson Langdale, sen., and Sampson Langdale, jun., Stockton-upon-Tees, and Yarm, Yorkshire, corn dealers, first div. of 8d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday.—Joseph Ferrin, Hereford, grocer, first and final div. of 2s. 3d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday.

Tuesday, April 18.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

ELLIS, CHARLES, Easthothly, Sussex, grocer.

WADE, JAMES, Lisson-grove, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

BENTON, EDWARD, Tottenham-court-road, draper, April 28, May 30: solicitors, Messrs. Guy and Co., Great Queen-street, Westminster.

CHURCHYARD, LUCY, Woodbridge, Suffolk, butcher, May 3, June 2: solicitors, Mr. Taylor, Mark-lane; and Mr. Pownall, Ipswich.

DYON, WILLIAM, Wakefield, Yorkshire, grocer, May 1, 22: solicitors, Mr. Clarke, Chancery-lane; Mr. Dalby, Wakefield; and Mr. Cariss, London.

ELSTER, DIEDRICK JOHN and JAMES GODFREY, Threadneedle-street, merchants, April 27, May 25: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers.

GREENWOOD, JAMES, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted spinner; April 28, May 26: solicitors, Mr. Hawkins, New Boswell-court, Messrs. Wells and Co., Bradford; and Mr. Courtenay, Leeds.

HARRISON, ANTHONY, Bootle-cum-Linacre, near Liverpool, joiner, May 2, 26: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent and Co., Temple; and Messrs. Irish and Fletcher, Liverpool.

HETTINGTON, MARY, Lyme Regis, innkeeper, April 27, May 30: solicitors, Mr. Cotton, Raymond-buildings; Mr. Waring, Lyme Regis; and Messrs. Bishop and Pitts, Exeter.

HILLARD, WILLIAM, Swindon, innkeeper, May 2, 30: solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. Browne, Swindon.

MARLAND, ADAM, Macclesfield, silk manufacturer, April 28, May 19: solicitors, Messrs. Bell, Brodric, and Bell, Bow-churchyard; and Mr. Norris and Mr. Grimditch, Macclesfield.

PROSSER, HANNAH, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, and PROSSER, ANN, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, milliners, April 24, May 30: solicitors, Messrs. Rutter and Co., Ely-place, Holborn.

SHAVE, JOHN, Bristol, licensed victualler, May 1, 30: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., Crosby-square; and Mr. King, Bristol.

STOFFORD, JAMES SIDNEY, Austin-frisers, merchant, April 28, May 30: solicitors, Messrs. Tatham, Upton, and Johnson, Austin-frisers.

TOWNSEND, EDMUND, Hungerford-market, and Grosvenor-street West, Pimlico, fishmonger, May 2, June 2: solicitor, Mr. Stephens, Northumberland-street, Strand.

WEBB, ROBERT BLAKE, Bury St. Edmund's, draper, May 4, June 2: solicitors, Messrs. Soles and Turner, Aldermanbury.

WILSON, RICHARD, Hartlepool, shipowner, May 3, 26: solicitors, Mr. Allison, Darlington; and Mr. Harle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BOWER and CLEUGH, Dundee, card manufacturers, April 26, May 17.

CAMPBELL, E. Oban, Argyleshire, saddler, April 23, May 20.

CARSWELL, T. Paisley, tailor, April 24, May 27.

CHRISTIE, P. Grangemouth, draper, April 22, May 13.

FULTON, W. Glasgow, tanner, April 26, May 16.

LAWRIE, A. Clerniston, near Edinburgh, farmer, April 25, May 23.

LAWRIE, J. Edinburgh, farmer, April 22, May 12.

M'ARTHUR, J. Monkies, contractor, April 21, May 12.

M'INDOE, J. Glasgow, wright, April 24, May 16.

PARK, J. Rutherglen, grocer, April 24, May 15.

PHILIP, J. Leith, distiller, April 24, May 15.

REID, R. Glasgow, wright, April 24, May 24.

SCOTT, D. O. Dunfermline, power-loom manufacturer, April 26, May 24.

SIM, J. K. Glasgow, commission agent, April 24, May 22.

DIVIDENDS.

J. Blackburne, Liverpool, tailor, first div. of 5s.; at Mr. Casanova's, Liverpool, April 27, or any subsequent Thursday.—H. Elkington, Maida-hill East, chemist, first div. of 5s. 7d.; at Mr. Stansfeld's, King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street, April 30, and three following Thursdays.—J. Plumley, Reading, stone mason, div. of 1s. 6d.; at Mr. Stansfeld's, King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street, April 30, and three following Thursdays.—T. Brooks, Hoxton Old-town, baker, first div. of 10d.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, on Wednesday.—T. Berridge, Manchester, cigar merchant, first div. of 4s. 3d.; at Mr. Pott's, Manchester, May 2, or any subsequent Tuesday.—S. and W. E. Gundry, Bridport, bankers, first div. of 8s. 8d.; at Mr. H. Gundry, Exeter, any Tuesday or Friday after the 29th inst.—G. Edwards, Newton Abbott, Devonshire, coach builder, first div. of 3s.; at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, any Tuesday.—H. W. Frampton, Bideford, Devonshire, grocer, first div. of 4s. 0d.; at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, any Tuesday.—W. H. Pine, Honiton, Devonshire, maltster, first div. of 3s. 6d.; at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, any Tuesday.—N. T. Hawke, Penance, tea dealer, first div. of 2s. 1d.; at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, any Tuesday.—J. Payne, Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, draper, div. of 4s., on new proofs, at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, first div. of 4s.; at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter, any Tuesday.—J. Lee, Coventry, watch manufacturer, first div. of 8s.; at Mr. Valpy's, Birmingham, any Thursday.—B. Linell, Shrewsbury, grocer, first div. of 1s.; at Mr. Valpy's, Birmingham, any Thursday.—C. Taylor, Miffield, Yorkshire, brewer, first div. of 1s.; at Mr. Hope's, Leeds, April 18, or any subsequent Tuesday.—W. Burton, Bradford, Yorkshire, joiner, final div. of 2s. 6d.; at Mr. Hope's, Leeds, April 18, or any subsequent Tuesday.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, April 17.

We had only a short supply of English Wheat to-day, and the best dry samples sold pretty readily at last week's prices, but damp and inferior sorts went off very slowly, and 1s. to 2s. cheaper. The arrivals of Foreign Wheat having increased considerably, and further quantities being expected, the Market was very heavy for all but the finest qualities, and even these were offered fully 2s. lower, in order to induce buyers. In Flour very little doing. Barley and Malts met a very limited sale. Peas were very dull and rather cheaper. Owing to the large arrivals of Egyptian Beans, which are offering on much lower terms, the best English met a slow sale and were rather cheaper. Good Oats sold more freely and fully as dear, having but a limited supply. Tares very dull and cheaper. Linseed Cakes in less demand. We had more sales for Cloverseeds, but at reduced prices. The current prices as under.

Wheat, Red.....	39 to 40	Peas, Hog.....	32 to 35
White.....	42 to 45	Boilers.....	33 to 36
Barley.....	42 to 45	Beans, Ticks.....	31 to 33
Flour, per sk. (Town) 40	40 to 45	Pigeon.....	34 to 37
Barley.....	28 to 35	Oats, Feed.....	17 to 20
Malt, Ordinary.....	33 to 36	Poland.....	20 to 23
Malt, Extra.....	34 to 37	Potato.....	20 to 23
Peas.....	32 to 34		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR APRIL 14.

Wheat.....	51s. 6d.	Wheat.....	50s. 10d.
Barley.....	32 to 35	Barley.....	31 to 34
Oats.....	29 to 32	Oats.....	20 to 23
Peas.....	32 to 35	Peas.....	30 to 33
Beans.....	35 to 38	Beans.....	35 to 38

DUTIES.

Wheat.....	7 0	Rye.....	2 0
Barley.....	2 0	Beans.....	2 0
Oats.....	2 6	Peas.....	2 0

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, April 17.

Owing to the prevailing mild weather, the Beef trade was in a sluggish state, at in some instances a decline in the quotations paid on Monday last of 2d. per 8 lbs. Still, however, the prime cuts sold at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. At the close of business a total clearance had not been effected. Notwithstanding the numbers of Sheep were on the increase, the Mutton trade was firm, and the late advance in the currencies was steadily supported. The prime old Downs in the wool sold at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8 lbs. With Lambs we were tolerably well, but not so heavily supplied. All breeds moved off readily at very full prices. From the Isle of Wight we received 50 head.—Calves—the supply of which was good—moved off slowly at barely stationary prices. In Pigs next to nothing was doing, but we have no change to notice in value.

Price per stone of 14 lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal.....	4s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.
Mutton.....	4 0 to 5 4	Pork.....	4 0 to 5 0
Lambs.....	6s. 0d. to 7s. 0d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.....	871	Sheep & Lambs.....	298	Pigs.....	358
Friday.....	871	21,500	103		612

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, April 17.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.	Per 10 lbs. by the carcass.	Per 10 lbs. by the carcass.
Inferior Beef 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Inf. Mutton 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.	
Middle do 3 4 to 3 6	Mid. ditto 4 4 to 4 6	
Prime large 3 6 to 3 8	Prime ditto 4 8 to 4 10	
Prime small 3 8 to 3 10	Veal 4 6 to 5 0	
Large Pork 3 10 to 4 4	Small Pork 4 6 to 5 0	
Lambs.....	6s. 0d. to 7s. 0d.	

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—In the absence of business of the slightest importance in any description of Seeds quotations may be regarded as nominally unaltered.

BRITISH SEEDS.

Cloverseed, red 33s. to 48s.; fine, 51s. to 52s.; white, 38s. to 48s.	
Cow Grass.....	36s. to 58s.
Linseed (per qr.).....	sowing 56s. to 60s.; crushing 42s. to 48s.
Linseed Cakes (per 1,000 of 3lbs. each).....	£12 10s. to £13 0s.
Trefoil (per cwt.).....	15s. to 21s.
Rapeseed, new (per last).....	£30 to £34
Ditto Cakes (per ton).....	£5 15s. to £6
Mustard (per bushel) white.....	6s. to 9s.; brown 8s. to 10s.
Canary (per quarter).....	67s. to 68s.; fine 69s. to 70s.
Tares, Spring (per bushel).....	5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 8d.; of household ditto, 6d. to 7d. per 4lbs. loaf.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

Irish Butter of all kinds was in better demand towards the close of last week, and sales effected accordingly, leaving the stock on hand unusually small. Prices ruled, according to quality, from 84s. to 98s. per cwt. Foreign sold readily at from 82s. to 102s. per cwt.—Bacon.—Irish singed sides were not in active demand, and the sales consequently limited. Prices from 55s. to 71s. per cwt., and firm. American singed and scalded sides sold to a fair extent at 58s. to 64s. per cwt. Bale and tierce middles, Irish, saleable at 60s. to 64s.; American, 56s. to 60s.; tierce middles, Irish, 58s. to 62s.; American, 56s. to 60s., as in size and quality. Hams scarce and wanted at 66s. to 76s. per cwt.—Lard.—Demand dull, except for fine quality. Price —Bladders, 70s. to 84s.; kegs, 55s. to 63s.

BUTTER, CHEESE, BACON, AND HAMS.

Butter, per cwt.	Cheese, per cwt.
Dorset.....	108 to 112
Carlow.....	94 to 98
Sligo.....	84 to 88
Cork, 1st.....	88 to 94
Waterford.....	84 to 88
Limerick.....	86 to 90
Foreign, prime.....	106 to 110
Friesland.....	94 to 102
Kiel.....	94 to 102
Fresh Butter, per doz., 12s. 6d. to 14s. 0d.	

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—Our market continues without any material alteration since our last report, and a moderate amount of business is doing at about the same prices as then current.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Monday, April 17.—The market continues to be well supplied with vegetables and with most kinds of fruit. Pine-apples are a little dearer. A supply of foreign Grapes is well kept up; small quantities of hot-house grapes also continue to make their appearance. Pears and Apples are as plentiful as could be expected, considering the season. Of the former, specimens of Beurré Rance, Easter Beurré, and Ne Plus Meuris may be bought at from 3s. to 4s. per dozen. Nuts are sufficient for the demand. Filberts fetch from 14s. to 20s. per 100 lbs. Oranges are abundant. Lemons are moderately plentiful. Strawberries are cheaper. Of Vegetables, a few green peas from Lisbon have been offered during the week. Cauliflowers, Broccoli, Greens, &c., are plentiful. Sea-kale may be obtained at last week's prices, as may also Asparagus. French Beans fetch from 1s. to 2s. per 100.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 2,700 bales—of which 2,038 were from Adelaide, South Australia, 464 from Bombay, 138 from Montevideo, and the rest from Germany, &c. The market has been very dull for Wool.—Leeds, April 14.—There has been an improved demand for foreign Wools during the past week, but transactions only to a limited extent. We are glad, however, to observe the gradual return of confidence, as is evident by the increase of orders in the hands of the manufacturers, and we think there is reason to expect a decided improvement in trade.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Saturday.—The Cotton market has been further depressed this week about 4d. per lb. This is partly occasioned by the disturbed state of Europe and partly by the large import, no less than 33 vessels from America alone having entered this port during the last seven days. The total sales only amount to 20,730 bales, of which spinners have taken 19,660, exporters 975, and speculators 100 bales. The stock under the heavy import has increased to 322,800 bales, against 494,600 bales at the corresponding period of last year, while the comparative prices of the three descriptions of American "fair" stand thus:—

	1848.	1847.
New Orleans.....	44d. to 45d.	7d. per lb.
Mobile.....	44d. to 45d.	6d. "
Uplands.....	44d. to 45d.	6d. "

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday.—Notwithstanding the limited stock, this market ruled very dull to-day, and prices are from 6d. to 9d. per cwt. lower than on Monday last. P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 51s. per cwt. For forward delivery, we have no sales to report. Town Tallow is 51s. net cash. Rough Fat, 2s. 10d. per 8lbs.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 14d. to 18d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 2d. to 24d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 24d. to 26d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 26d. to 3d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3d. to 34d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 34d. to 36d.; Calfskins, each, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; Horse hides, 8s. 6d. to 9s.; Polled Sheep, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; Kents and Half-breds, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; Downs, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 7d.; Lamb Skins, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; Shearings, 4d. to 6d.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, April 15.—At per load of 36 trusses. Meadow..... 60s. to 80s. | Clover..... 80s. to 100s. Straw..... 28s. to 30s.

COAL EXCHANGE, April 17.

Hettons, 17s.; Stewarts, 16s. 9d.; Tees, 16s. 6d.; Wylams, 13s. 9d.; South Durham, 15s.—Our market to-day was uncommonly heavy, and considerable difficulty was experienced in effecting sales. There is a large supply expected.—Ships left over from last market day, 35; fresh arrivals, 40.—Total number of ships, 75.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS.—Tuesday Evening.

The sugar market has opened with a decided improved appearance to-day; 9,500 bags Mauritius found free buyers at the extreme prices of Friday to 6d. advance, and about 2,000 bags are reported sold by private contract. 1,500 bags Madras also sold, in public sale, at full prices; and a parcel of good quality, by private contract, at 22s. The private contract West India market has been neglected to-day—120 hhds. only sold—the trade having been chiefly occupied by the public sales. Refined has been firm, buyers of standard quality 53s.

Coffee has declined. 1,800 bags good ordinary native Ceylon sold in public sale at 30s. to 30s. 6d., at which prices some forced sales were made by private contract, at the close of last week. Mocha declined 3s. to 5s. in a large public sale, where the importer met the market—350 bales and 350 half-bales sold; clean garbled greenish, 45s. 6d. to 49s. 6d.; long berried, 54s. 6d. to 56s.; but it should be observed that prices of Mocha have been partly nominal for some time, while other descriptions have been declining.

Tea dull, without alteration in prices.

[Advertisement.]—THOUGH MULTITUDES IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE DRANK COFFEE for years, few have ever tasted it in perfection. And yet the price usually paid is sufficient to entitle the consumer to an article greatly superior to that with which

he is generally contented. This arises, partly, from ignorance of the true properties of good coffee, and also from not knowing where to get better served; for that which is not sold knowing bought. It is distinctly affirmed, that three-fourths of the coffee sold in this country is both inferior in quality, and high in price. Most of the choice coffees find their way to the continent, where the people well know how to appreciate them. No reason, however, can be assigned why a reform should not take place in the taste of the people of this country, and John Cassell has determined that it shall not be his fault if that reform is not speedily effected. He has, accordingly, made extensive arrangements to supply to every part of the United Kingdom, coffees of the world's finest growths, combining richness, strength, and flavour, through the medium of regularly appointed agents. All applications for the agency to be made direct to John Cassell, Abchurch-lane, London.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WORKS BY REV. B. PARSONS.

EDUCATION the BIRTHRIGHT of every HUMAN BEING; or, EDUCATION AS IT IS AND AS IT OUGHT TO BE; dedicated to working people of both sexes. 3s.

PENNY TRACTS for FUSTIAN JACKETS and SMOCK FROCKS. No. 8, "THE RADICALISM OF MOSES."

"The Author of these Tracts is already known by several works on which the public have pronounced a favourable verdict. Earnestness of purpose, vigour of thought, and freshness of language and illustration, are characteristics of them all. The tracts under review are in all these respects worthy of their predecessors, and we cordially desire for them an extensive circulation."—Nonconformist.

HALL, 25, Paternoster-row, London.

SILVER and ELECTRO PLATE SUPERSEDED BY RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK'S CHEMICALLY PURIFIED NICKEL SILVER.

A GOOD substitute for SILVER has long been sought after, and numerous have been the attempts to produce a perfect metal that will retain its colour when in use. How fruitless the attempts have been the public know too well from the fact that all their purchases have, after a few days' wear, exhibited a colour little better than brass. The very severe tests that have been applied to our metal, (which in all cases it has withstood,) at once places it pre-eminent above all others, and from its silver-like appearance, its intrinsic and valuable properties, gives us confidence in asserting that it is and must remain, the ONLY PURE AND PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

	King's and Strongest Thread Victoria	Fiddle Pattern.	Pattern.
Table Spoons & Forks, per dozen.....	12s. and 15s.	19s.	23s. 30s.
Dessert do. and do.....	10s. and 13s.	16s.	21s. 26s.
Tea ditto.....	6s. and 6s.	11s.	13s.

Cruet Frames with rich Cut Glasses, from 22s. Table Candlesticks, 12s. per pair. Tea Sets, and every article for the Table, at proportionate prices.

R. and J. S. beg to caution the public against several spurious imitations of their articles, which are daily offered to the public as Albata British Plate. The genuine are to be had only at their establishment, 386, STRAND, opposite Somerset House, where no inferior goods are kept.

FENDERS, FIRE IRONS, &c.

RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK are now offering the most extensive and elegant assortment of Fenders in London, embracing the newest designs, at prices under 30 per cent. under any other house. Ornamental Iron Fenders, 3 feet long, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6 inches, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto, bronzed, from 6s.; Bed-room Fenders, from 2s. 6d.; rich Scroll Fenders, with Steel Spear, any size, from 10s. Chamber Fire Irons, 1s. 9d. per set; Parlour ditto, 2s. 6d.; superior ditto, with cut head and bright pans, from 6s. 6d.; new patterns, with bronzed head, 11s.; ditto, with ormolu and China heads, at proportionate prices.

BALANCE IVORY TABLE KNIVES, 10s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 9s.; carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair. White Bone Table Knives, 6s.; Dessert ditto, 4s.; Carvers, 2s. per pair. Superior Kitchen Table Knives and Forks, from 6s. 6d. per dozen. Table Knives, with pure Nickel Silver, Tables, 22s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 18s.; Carvers, 6s. 6d. per pair, all marked RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, and warranted.

A SET OF THREE FULL-SIZED TEA TRAYS, 6s. 6d.; superior Japan Gothic ditto, 13s. 6d.; Gothic paper ditto, 33s. Patent Dish Covers, set of six for 17s. Roasting Jack, complete, 7s. 6d.; Brass ditto, 9s. 6d. Coal Scuttles, from 1s. 6d.; and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery 30 per cent. under any other house.

SHOWER BATHS, WITH CURTAINS, 9s. RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, in submitting the above prices, beg it to be understood, it is for articles of the best quality only.

The extensive patronage their establishment has received during a period of nearly thirty years (1818), will be some proof the public have not been deceived; but as a further guarantee, they will continue to exchange any article not approved of, or return the money, it being their intention to sell only such articles as will do them credit, and give satisfaction by their durability.

RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, 386, Strand, opposite Somerset House.

Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent to any part post free. ESTABLISHED 1818.

The Money returned for every Article not approved of.

RESTORATION OF THE HAIR.—To Messrs. A. Rowland and Sons, 20, Hatton-garden, London. Linton, Cambridgeshire, Oct. 25, 1847.

Gentlemen.—A striking instance of the efficacy of your Macassar Oil in the restoration of the hair has just come under my notice. The person alluded to is a young man named Haylock, of Ashdon, near this place, whose entire head of hair came off by some unaccountable means. He purchased of me several different popular preparations, which he regularly and faithfully used, but without effecting the least apparent change. At last I advised him to try a bottle of your Macassar Oil; and on Friday last, he communicated to me the pleasing intelligence of the reappearance of a thick head of hair. You can make what use you please of this, and refer inquirers to Yours respectfully, J. SERGEANT, Bookseller, &c.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL is a delightfully fragrant and transparent preparation for the hair, and as an invigorator and purifier is beyond all precedent. Weakness, premature greyness, and tendency to fall off, are also entirely prevented by its regular application. In dressing the hair, nothing can equal the effect of Rowland's Macassar Oil, on either natural or artificial hair, rendering it so admirably soft that it will lie in any direction, producing beautifully flowing curls, and, by the transcendent lustre it imparts, rendering the head-dress truly enchanting.

Price 3s. 6d.—7s.—Family bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s. per bottle.

Each bottle of their genuine article has the words ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, Engraved in two lines on the wrapper; and on the back of the wrapper nearly 1,500 times, containing 39,038 letters.

Sold by them and by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Beware of spurious "Macassar Oils." Some are offered under the implied sanction of Royalty, and the Government Departments, and similar attempts at deception.

Now ready, price 2d., or 12s. 6d. per 100,

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OR,

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AND

WORKINGS OF WILLINGHOOD.

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By EDWARD MIALI.

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—*Gateshead Observer*.

"This neat little volume is a reprint of the able and interesting series of Essays which appeared, under the above titles, in the 'Nonconformist' last year. We perused many of the essays, as they originally appeared from time to time, with much gratification, and we have no doubt they will meet with, as they deserve, an extensive circulation in their present more convenient and connected shape."

—*Leicester Mercury*.

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"The literary merits of Mr. Miall's work are considerable. The style is vigorous and lively, abounding with illustrations. Perhaps the book would have gained in real value if its author could have forgotten newspaper exigency in the matter of point. As a series of newspaper articles, however, they must have done much towards raising the *Nonconformist* to its high position amongst the dissenting organs."

—*Manchester Examiner*.

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Fine Congou Tea, Pekoe flavour (we recommend this particularly)	3 8	Good common Green	3 0		
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